2

UEDA HAJIME

Q•KO-CHAN

The Earth Invader Girl

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Q•KO-CHAN

2

UEDA HAJIME

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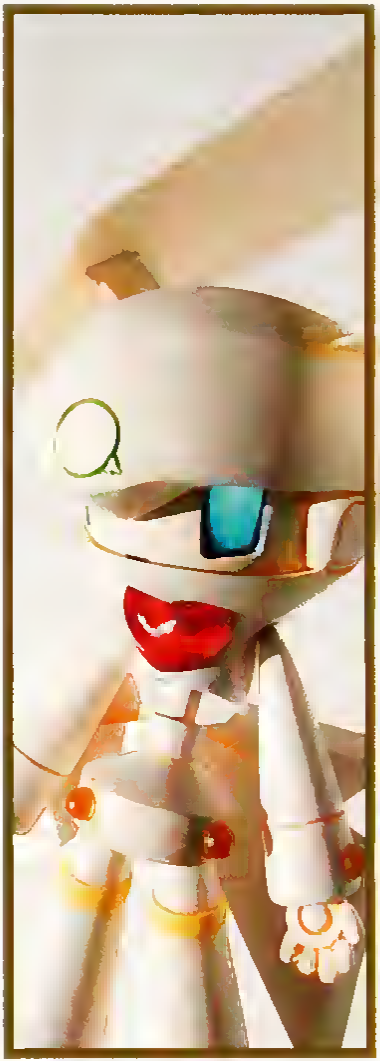
Q・ko chan 2 UEDA HAJIME



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Ueda Hajime

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
William Flanagan

LETTERED BY
Min Choi

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Q-Ko-Chan

The Earth Invader Girl

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Q-Ko Chan volume 2 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), as a title at the end of one's name is used, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many translations into English leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the "feel" of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs., etc. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san," and it is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/ Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's "senior" in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai," and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it's perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Q

Q・ko chan 2 UEDA HAJIME

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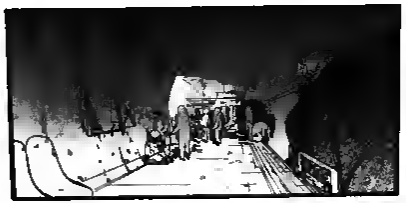
IS FURIKO ALL RIGHT?
SHE'S FINE. SHE SAW THE CLOUDS AND GOT SCARED...

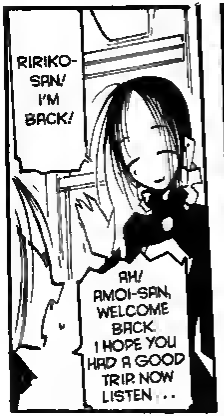
THIS GUY HERE ...?!!

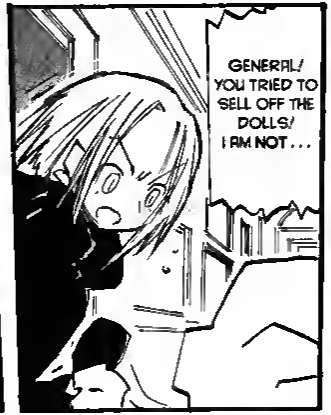
HOW DREADFUL. YOU MUST SEND HER HOME AT ONCE.
AND KIRIO ?
THAT BOY'S FINE. HE'S ALWAYS FINE...

THE JERK!!
MAJOR~



IT'S RAINING? REALLY? IT'S ALL RIGHT, JUST HEAD HOME.
O-KAY?

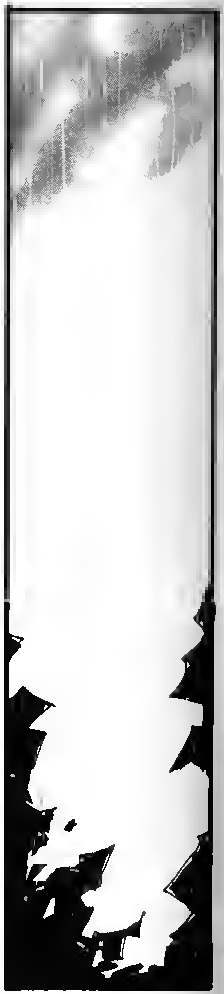

RIRIKO-SAN! I'M BACK!
AH! AMOI-SAN, WELCOME BACK. I HOPE YOU HAD A GOOD TRIP. NOW LISTEN...

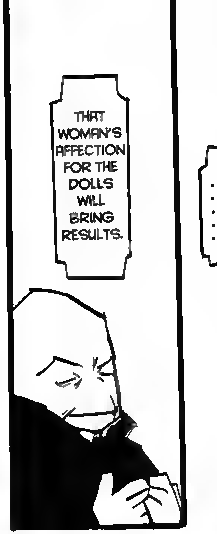

GENERAL! YOU TRIED TO SELL OFF THE DOLLS! I AM NOT...

I'M THE ONE YOU WANT TO CALL ON TO THE CARPET, RIGHT?

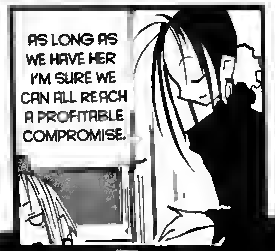
THE RAIN'S STOPPED.

THAT WAS A REALLY ROUGH STORM!
IT WAS SCARY, BUT THIS IS GETTING REALLY FUN! LET'S FLY AGAIN!
THEY'LL SEE US!



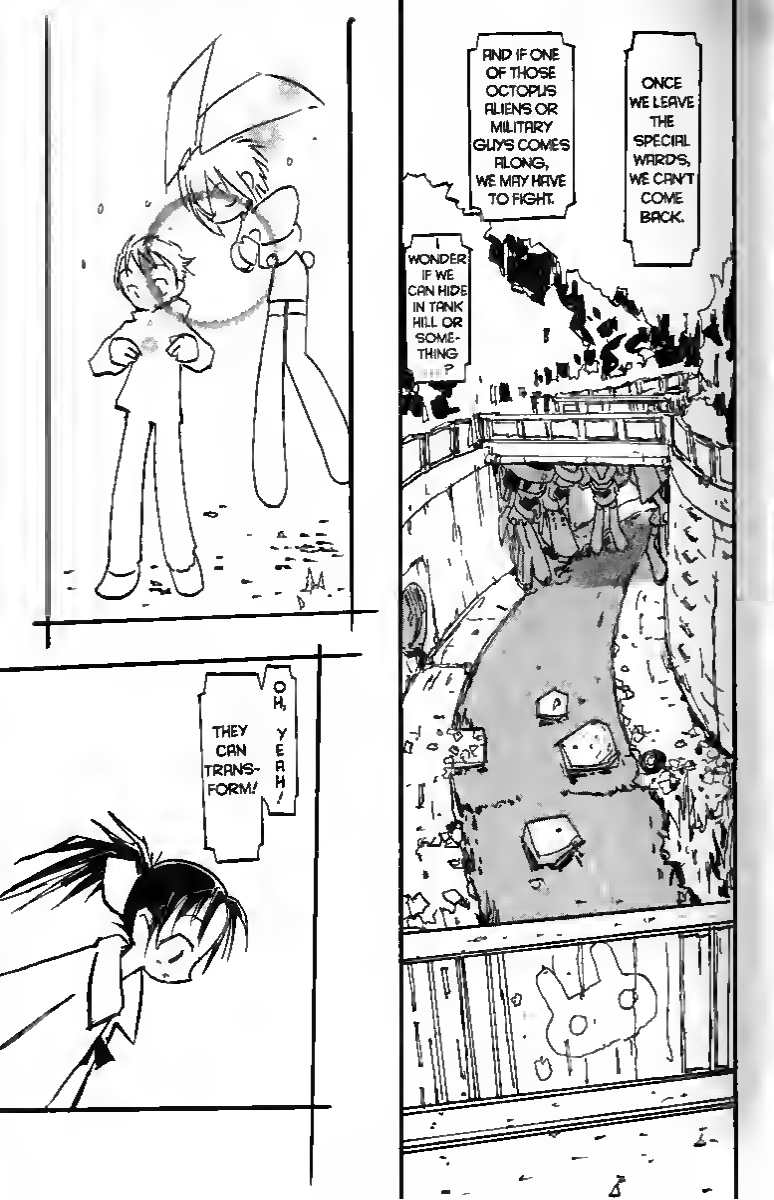

THAT WOMAN'S AFFECTION FOR THE DOLLS WILL BRING RESULTS.
...

BUT WE MUST BE CARE-FUL WITH BOYS.
HE'S STRONG HE'LL BE OKAY.
THAT'S WHY I HAD HIM.

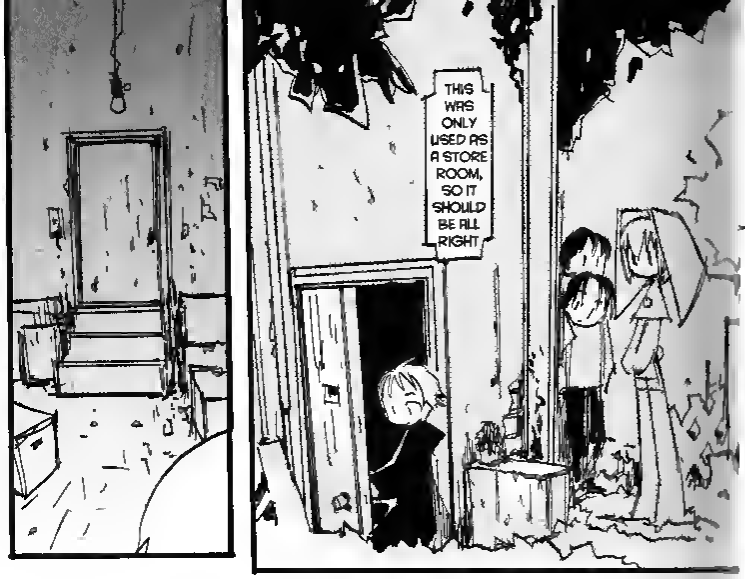

AS LONG AS WE HAVE HER I'M SURE WE CAN ALL REACH A PROFITABLE COMPROMISE.

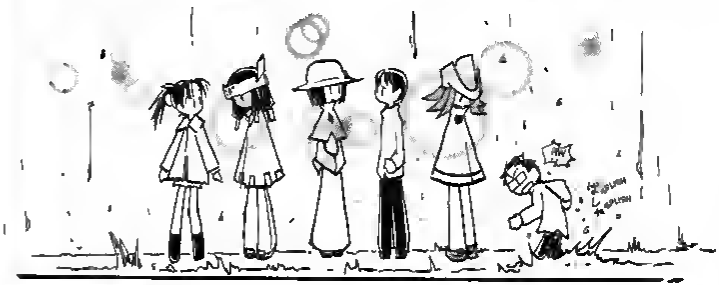
AND WE NEED HER FOR THE COMING DISCUS-SIONS WITH THIS DOLL "QUEEN."

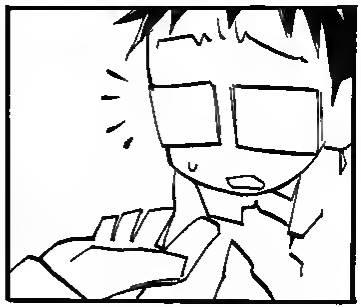
A DOLL...
...QUEEN. HUH?

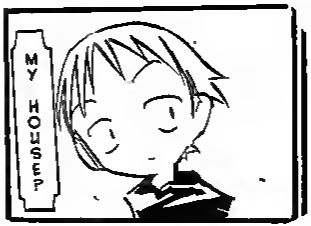

ONCE WE LEAVE THE SPECIAL WARD'S, WE CAN'T COME BACK.
AND IF ONE OF THOSE OCTOPUS ALIENS OR MILITARY GUYS COMES ALONG, WE MAY HAVE TO FIGHT.
I WONDER IF WE CAN HIDE IN TANK HILL OR SOMETHING?
OH, YEAH!
THEY CAN TRANSFORM!

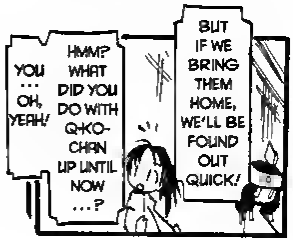
KIRIO?!
WHEN YOU FLY LOW, MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET CAUGHT UP ON THE POWER LINES.
HUH? A LITTLE EXPERIENCE AND NOW YOU'RE THE MAN? DON'T BE WEIRD!
BUT WHAT DO WE DO NOW...?


THIS WAS ONLY USED AS A STORE ROOM, SO IT SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT

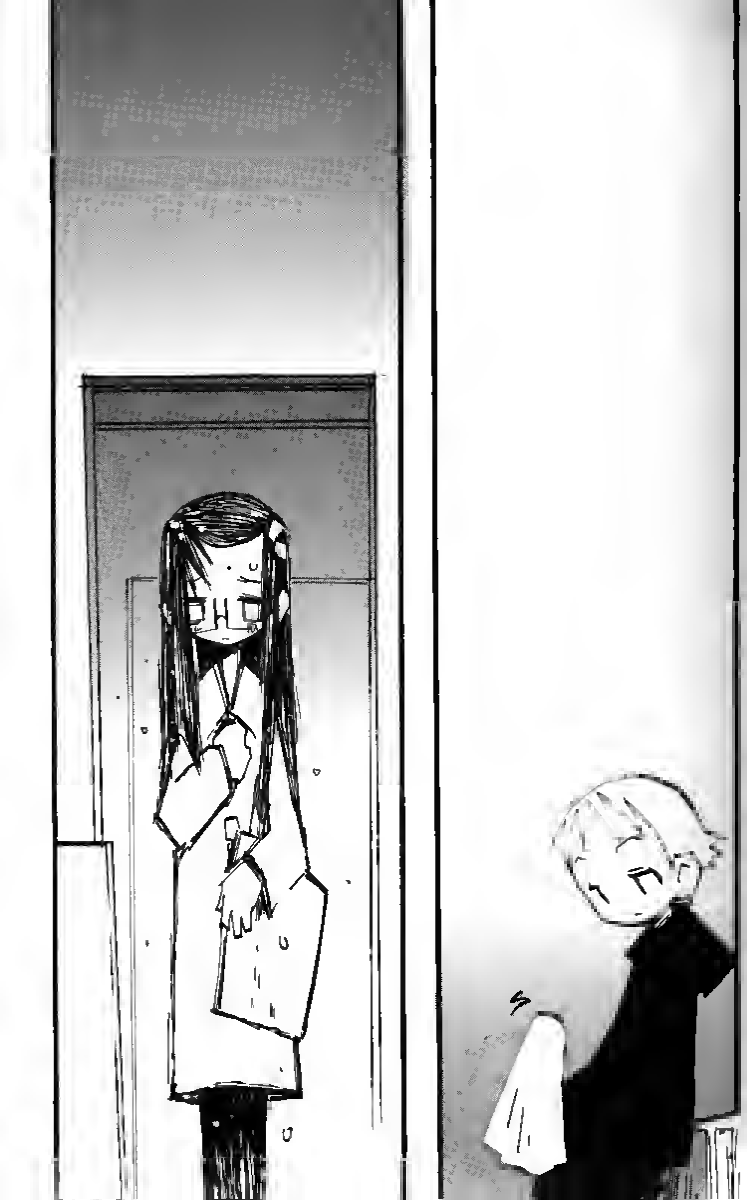





MY HOUSE?

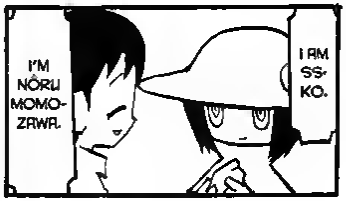

YOU ... OH, YEAH!
HMM? WHAT DID YOU DO WITH CHIKO-CHAN UP UNTIL NOW ...?
BUT IF WE BRING THEM HOME, WE'LL BE FOUND OUT QUICK!

?!

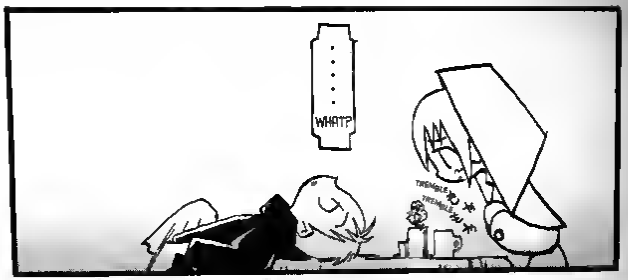


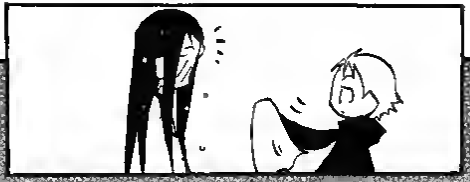
I'M MEI.
AH!

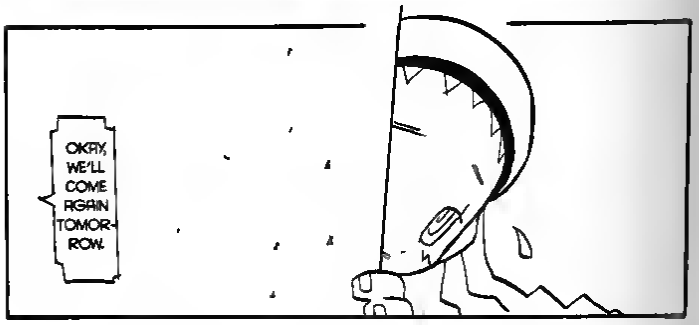
I AM RK-KO.
REGIS-TERING PLAYER.

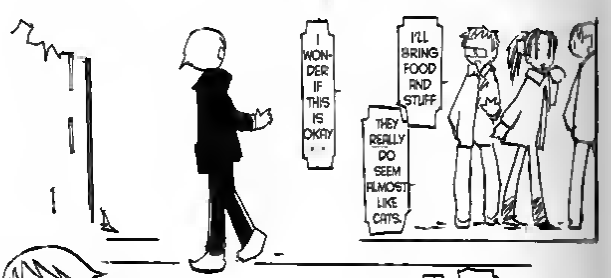

I'M NÔRU MOMO-ZAWA.
I AM SS-KO.

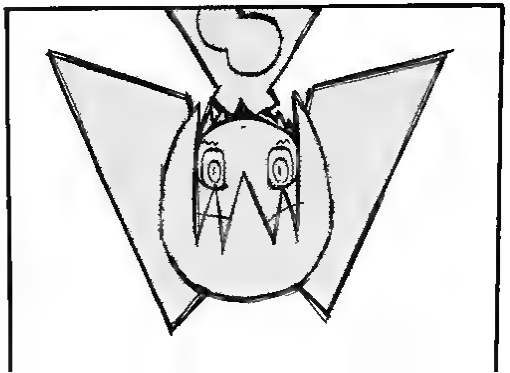
TA-TA-TA-TA-TA-TAT-SUTA KA-KA-KA ...
I AM NH-KO.

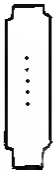

WHAT?




OKAY, WE'LL COME AGAIN TOMORROW.


I WONDER IF THIS IS OKAY...
I'LL BRING FOOD AND STUFF
THEY REALLY DO SEEM ALMOST LIKE CATS.

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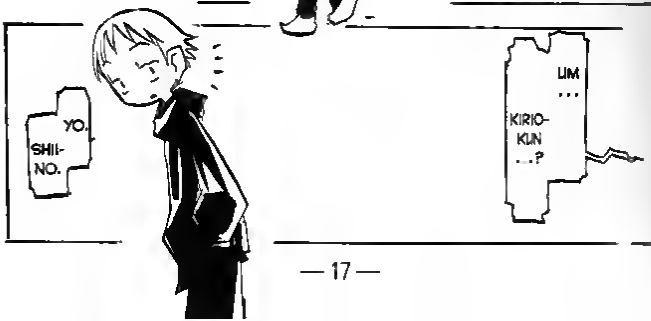
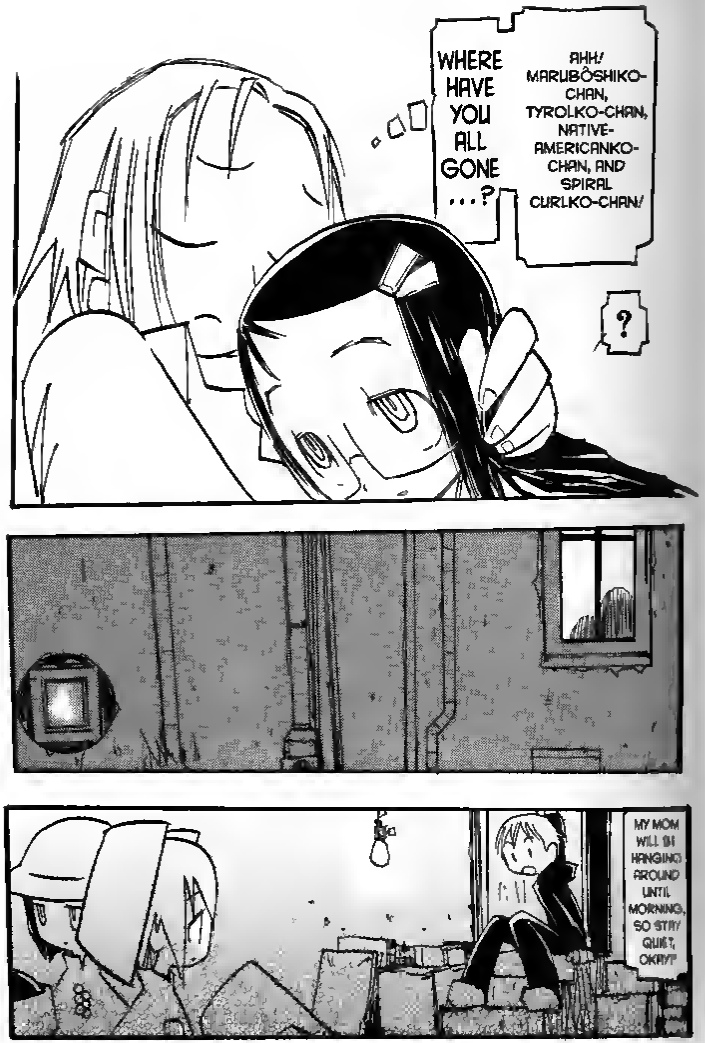
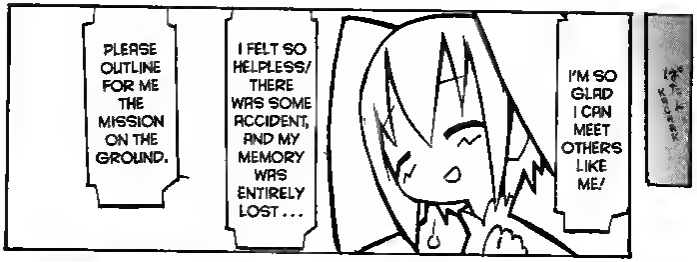
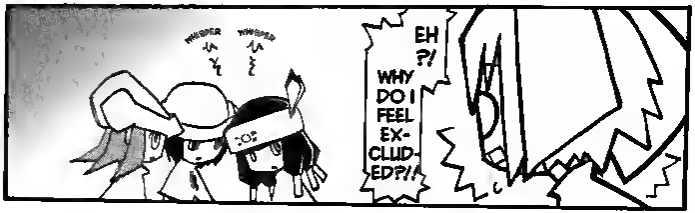

YO, SHIINO.
LIM...
KIRIO-KUN...?


WHERE HAVE YOU ALL GONE ...?
AHH! MARUBÔSHIKO-CHAN, TYROLKO-CHAN, NATIVE-AMERICANKO-CHAN, AND SPIRAL CURLKO-CHAN!
?
MY MOM WILL BE HANGING AROUND UNTIL MORNING, SO STAY QUIET, OKAY?

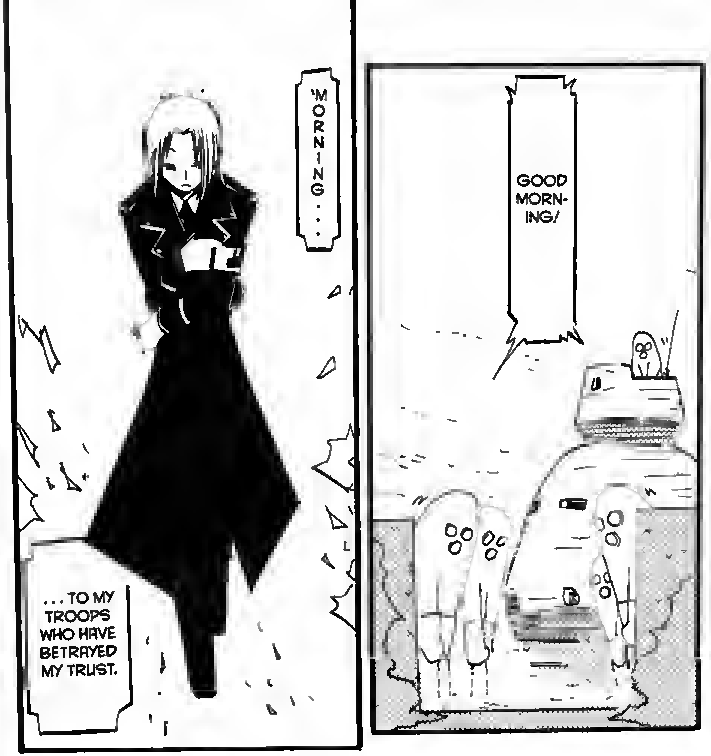
UM...
UH... THIS ONE TOO...
HOW SHOULD I KNOW? HIS ROOM, MAYBE?
WHERE'S KIRIO?
YOU WERE OKAY, RIGHT?
YOU'RE LATE TONIGHT.
I'M HOME!
Ahhh. I feel completely exhausted.

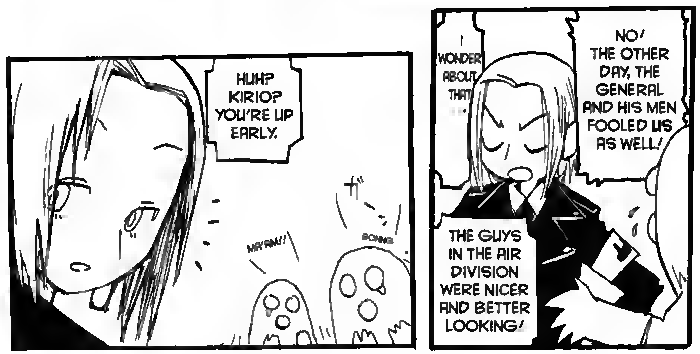
11

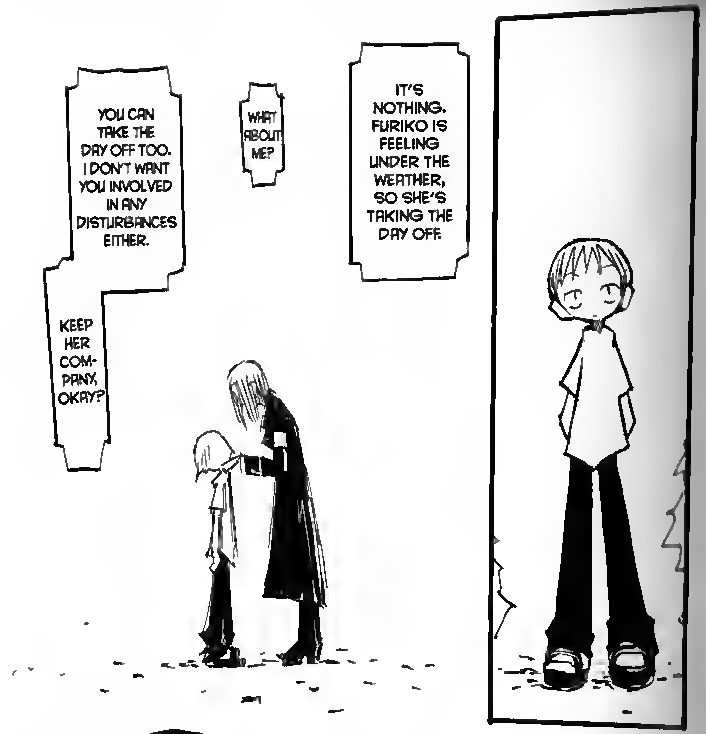

PLEASE OUTLINE FOR ME THE MISSION ON THE GROUND.
I FELT SO HELPLESS/ THERE WAS SOME ACCIDENT, AND MY MEMORY WAS ENTIRELY LOST...
I'M SO GLAD I CAN MEET OTHERS LIKE ME!


WHISPER
WHISPER
:-O:
EH?! WHY DO I FEEL EX-CLUD-ED?!

.....
:-O:

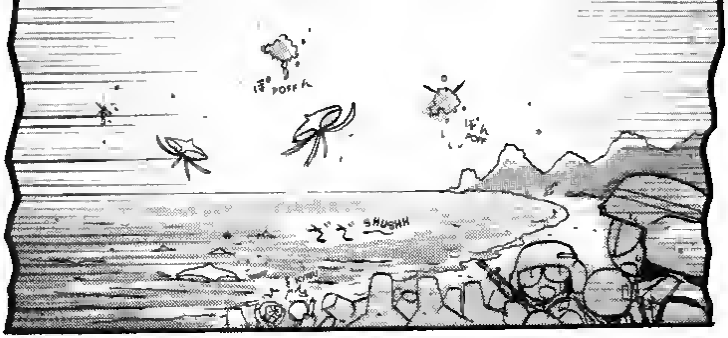

'MORNING...
...TO MY TROOPS WHO HAVE BETRAYED MY TRUST.
GOOD MORNING!

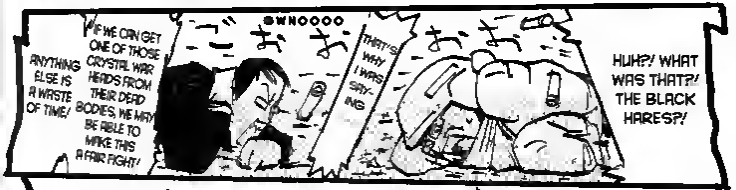

HUHP KIRIO? YOU'RE UP EARLY.
MIYAU!
BONNG
I WONDER ABOUT THAT...
NO! THE OTHER DAY, THE GENERAL AND HIS MEN FOOLED US AS WELL!
THE GUYS IN THE AIR DIVISION WERE NICER AND BETTER LOOKING!

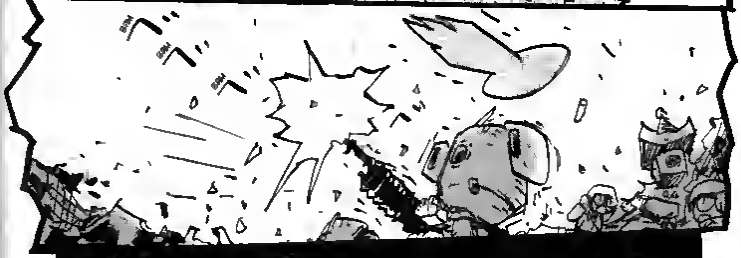

YOU CAN TAKE THE DAY OFF TOO. I DON'T WANT YOU INVOLVED IN ANY DISTURBANCES EITHER.
KEEP HER COMPANY, OKAY?
WHAT ABOUT ME?
IT'S NOTHING. FURIKO IS FEELING UNDER THE WEATHER, SO SHE'S TAKING THE DAY OFF.

HMM...
MAYBE I'LL HEAR YOU OUT.
ONE OF THE REASONS I'M HERE IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE GENERAL HAD SOME SECRET EARLY DAWN MISSION TODAY.
WE ALMOST KILLED OURSELVES TRYING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU!

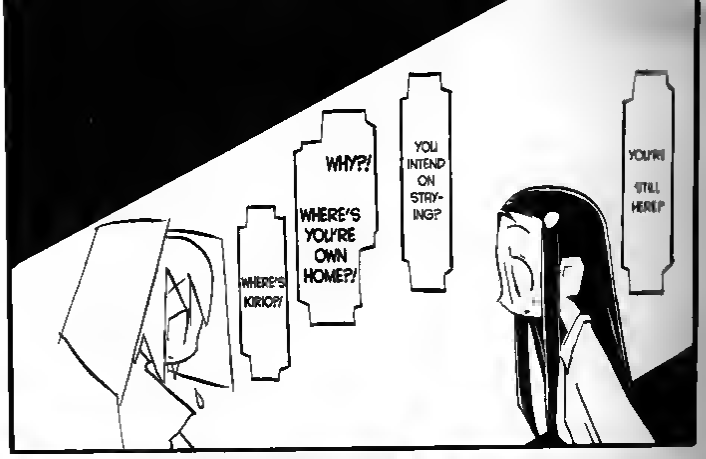
THERE'S EVEN MORE IN BACK. I'LL BRING SOME.


POFF
POFF
SHUSHH


ANYTHING ELSE IS A WASTE OF TIME!
IF WE CAN GET ONE OF THOSE CRYSTAL WAR HEADS FROM THEIR DEAD BODIES, WE MAY BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS A FAIR FIGHT!
WNOOOO
THAT'S WHY I WAS SAYING.
HUH?! WHAT WAS THAT?! THE BLACK HARES?!



IT'S · TIP · TOP · SE-CRET!
THAT'S · NO · FAIR!

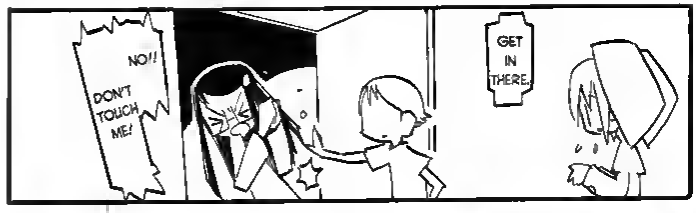

YOU'RE STILL HERE!?
YOU INTEND ON STAYING?
WHY?! WHERE'S YOU'RE OWN HOME?!
WHERE'S KIRIO?!

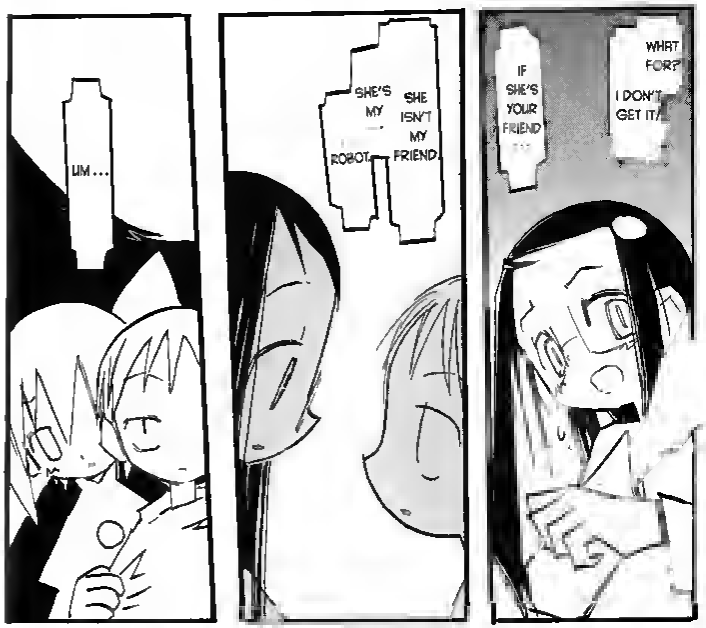
WHY SHOULD I!?
SHE'S YOUR FRIEND, ISN'T SHE?
I'M TELLING MOTHER!

THE COMBO FOOD'S TASTE AWFUL, AND NOBODY WANTS TO EAT THEM.
FURIKO! PERFECT! COULD YOU MAKE US SOMETHING TO EAT?

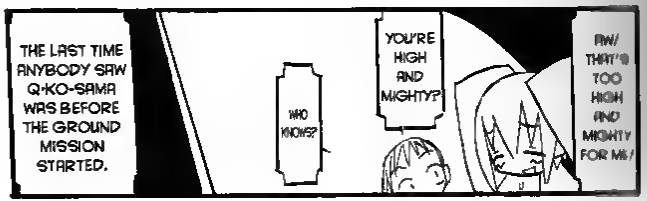
AH!
GOOD MORNING.

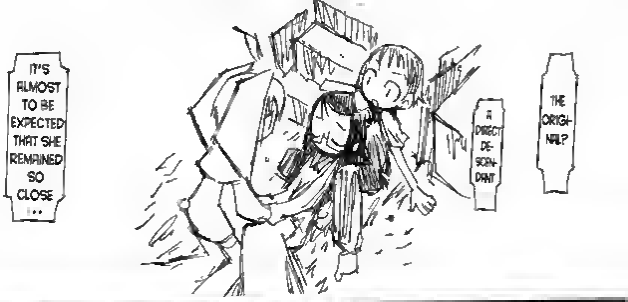
IT'S OKAY. GO AHEAD AND SLEEP.
ARE YOU GOING TO COL-LAPSE?
ARE YOU HAV-ING AN-OTHER AT-TACK?
HUHP
IT'S BETTER THAN GETTING SHOUTED AT.
THAT SEEMED LIKE AH AWFUL THING TO DO.


NO!! DON'T TOUCH ME!
GET IN THERE.


UM...
SHE'S MY ROBOT.
SHE ISN'T MY FRIEND.
IF SHE'S YOUR FRIEND...
WHAT FOR?
I DON'T GET IT.

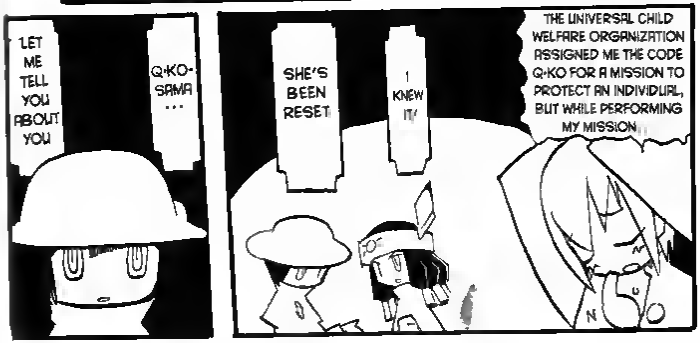
YOU'RE A MEMBER OF OUR GROUP OF "130 SISTERS" WELFARE MACHINES.
THE TOP MANAGE-MENT OF WHICH WERE THE NINE MEMBERS OF THE "COUNCIL OF NINE SISTERS."
YOU'RE OUR NINTH ELDEST SISTER.

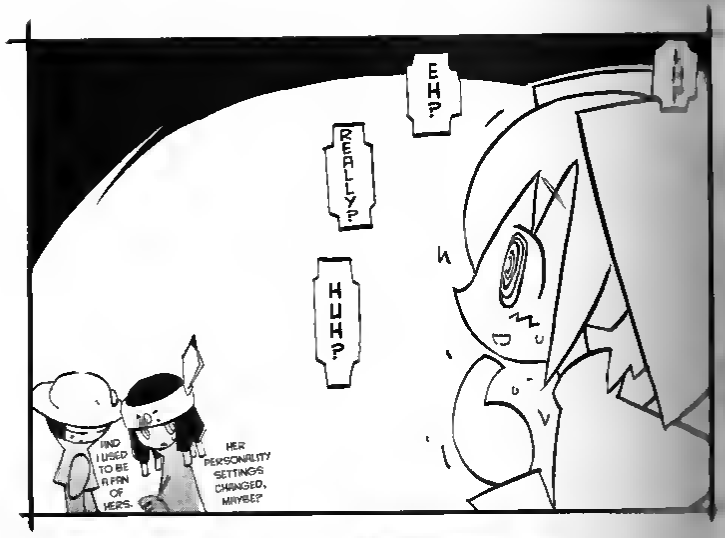

THE LAST TIME ANYBODY SAW Q-KO-SAMA WAS BEFORE THE GROUND MISSION STARTED.
WHO KNOWS?
YOU'RE HIGH AND MIGHTY?
AW/ THAT'S TOO HIGH AND MIGHTY FOR ME/

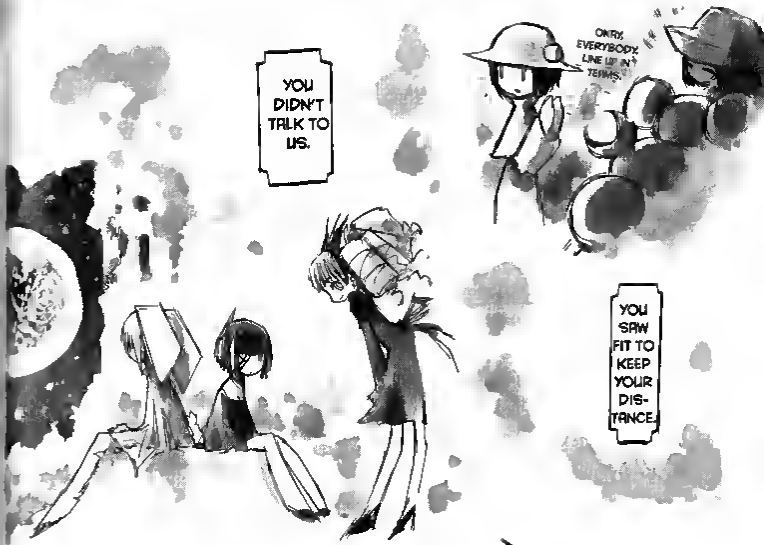

IT'S ALMOST TO BE EXPECTED THAT SHE REMAINED SO CLOSE ...
A DIRECT DE-SCEN-DANT
THE ORIGI-NAL?

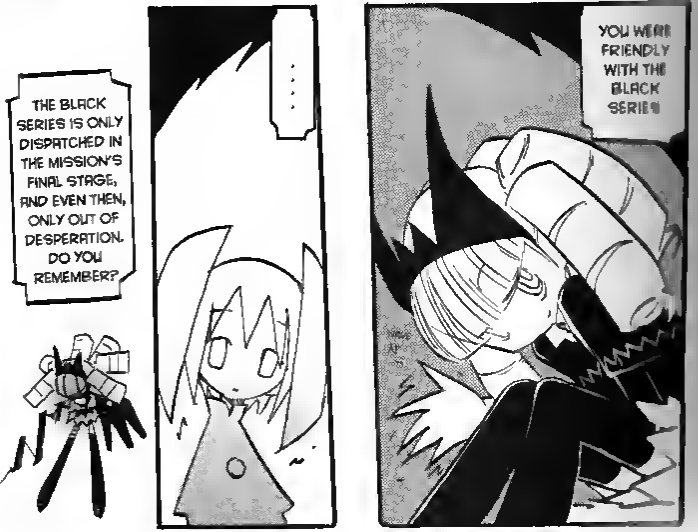
BIG SISTER Q-KO-SAMA?

YES. HOW MUCH DO YOU REMEMBER?
EH? SIS... YOU MEAN ME?

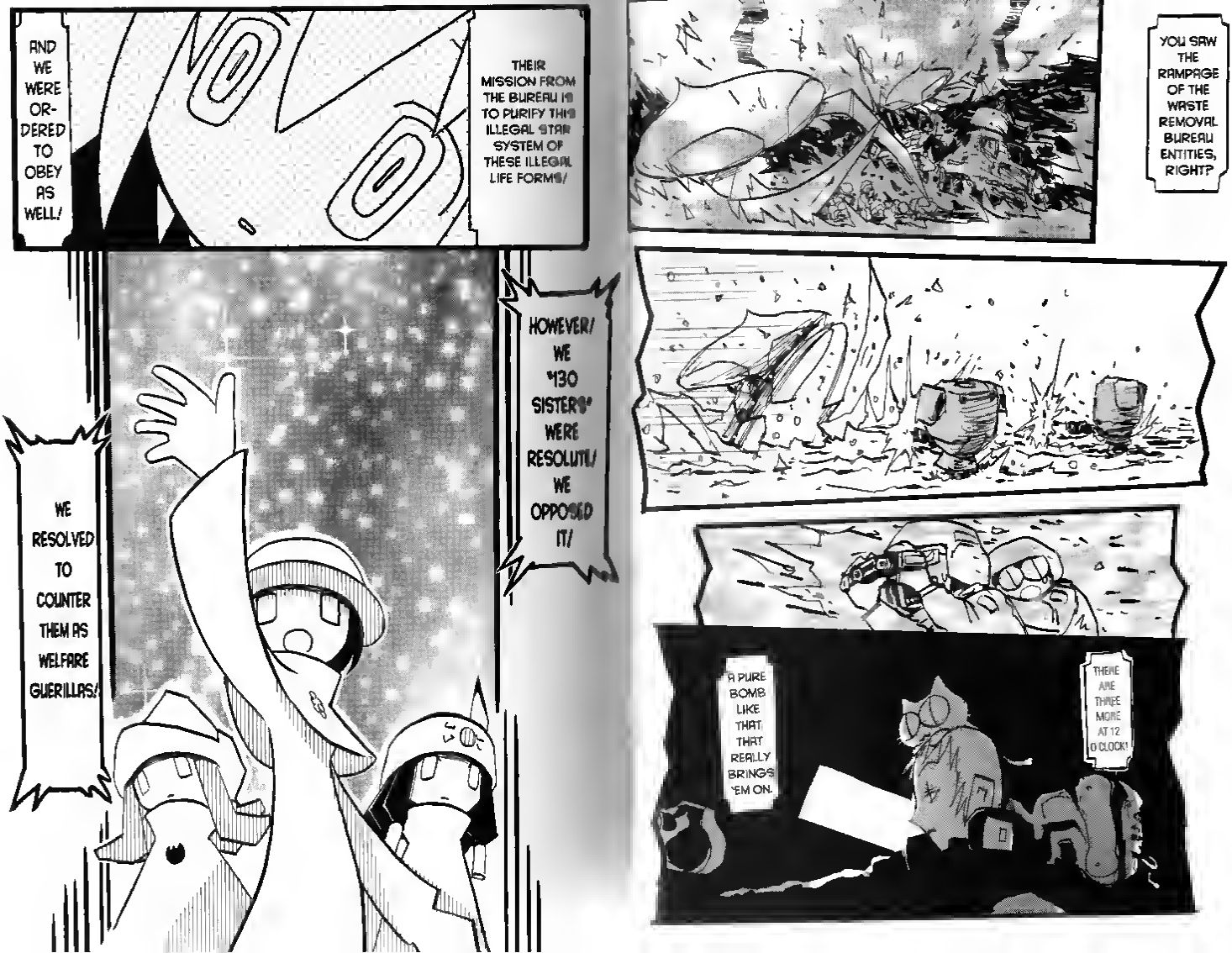

LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT YOU
Q-KO-SAMA ...
SHE'S BEEN RESET
I KNEW IT/
THE UNIVERSAL CHILD WELFARE ORGANIZATION ASSIGNED ME THE CODE Q-KO FOR A MISSION TO PROTECT AN INDIVIDUAL, BUT WHILE PERFORMING MY MISSION

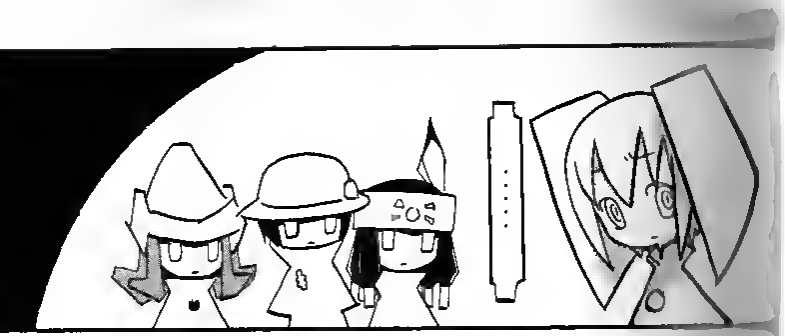

EH?
REALLY?
HUH?
AND I USED TO BE A FAN OF HERS.
HER PERSONALITY SETTINGS CHANGED, MAYBE?

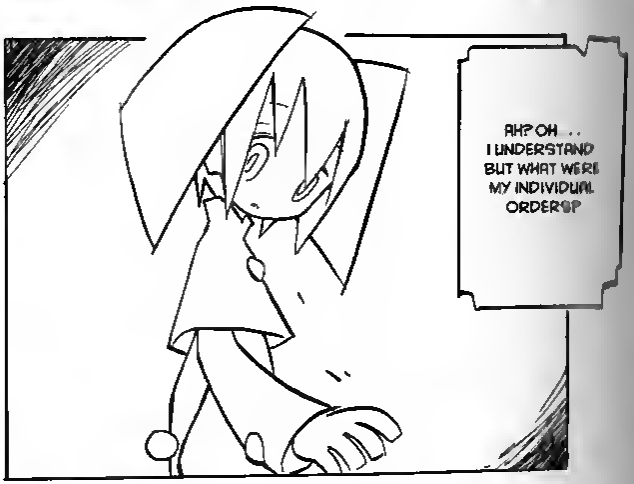

ONTO, EVERYBODY LINE UP IN 7 TEAMS.
YOU DIDN'T TALK TO US.
YOU SAW FIT TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.


THE BLACK SERIES IS ONLY DISPATCHED IN THE MISSION'S FINAL STAGE, AND EVEN THEN, ONLY OUT OF DESPERATION. DO YOU REMEMBER?
...
YOU WERE FRIENDLY WITH THE BLACK SERIES!

YOU WERE A DIFFICULT PERSON TO APPROACH.

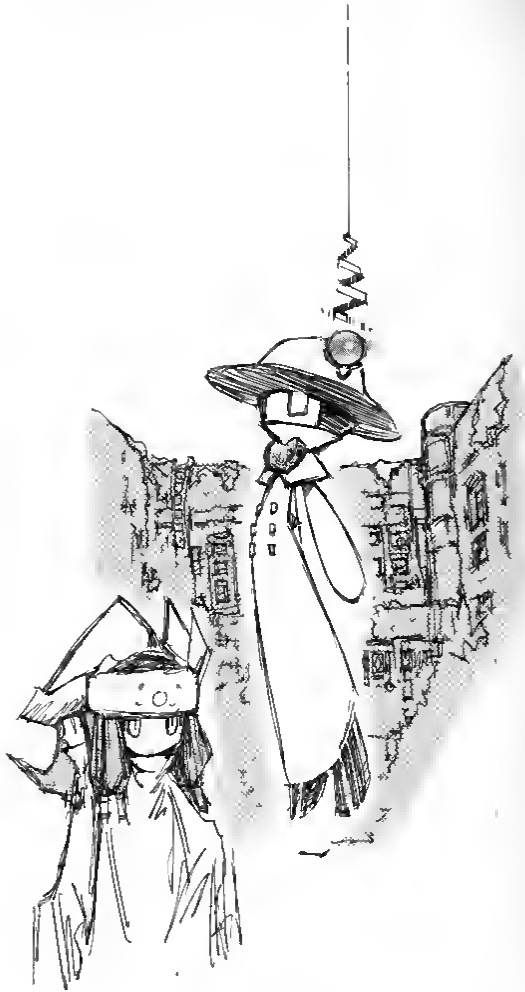

AND WE WERE ORDERED TO OBEY AS WELL!
THEIR MISSION FROM THE BUREAU IS TO PURIFY THIS ILLEGAL STAR SYSTEM OF THESE ILLEGAL LIFE FORMS!
HOWEVER! WE "130 SISTERS" WERE RESOLUTE! WE OPPOSED IT!
WE RESOLVED TO COUNTER THEM AS WELFARE GUERILLAS!
YOU SAW THE RAMPAGE OF THE WASTE REMOVAL BUREAU ENTITIES, RIGHT?
A PURE BOMB LIKE THAT. THAT REALLY BRINGS 'EM ON.
THERE ARE THREE MORE AT 12 O'CLOCK!


.....


AH? OH... I UNDERSTAND BUT WHAT WERE MY INDIVIDUAL ORDERS?

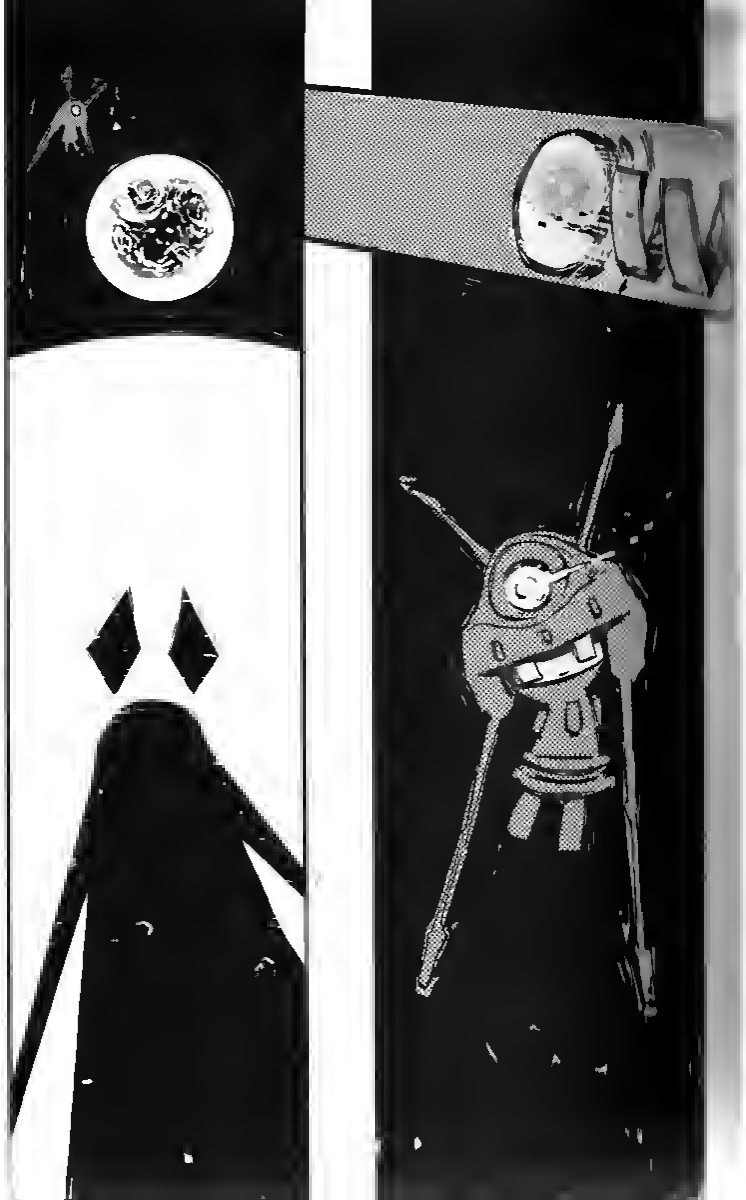
...AND THAT WAS WHEN
WE WERE IN GREAT CONFUSION
I HAVEN'T HEARD

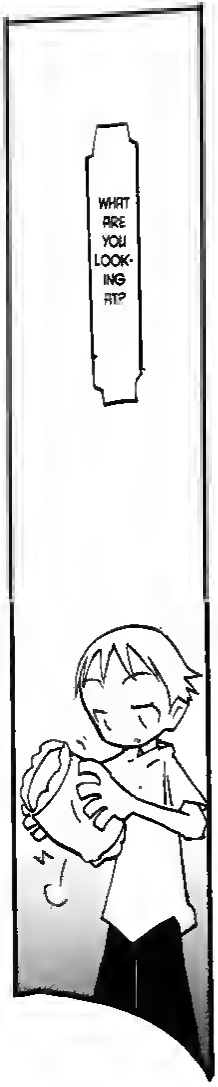
THIS PLANET'S... ...HELPLESS... ...BEAUTIFUL... ...HEALTHY CHILDREN MUST BE SAVED!!

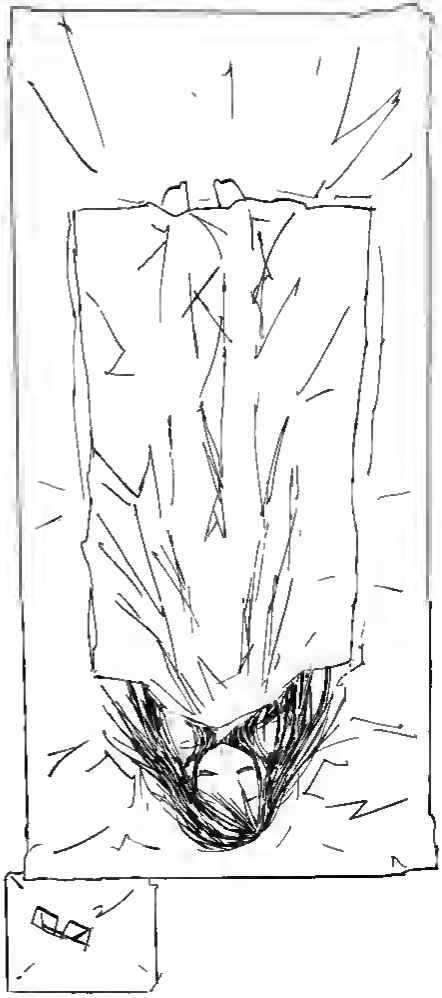


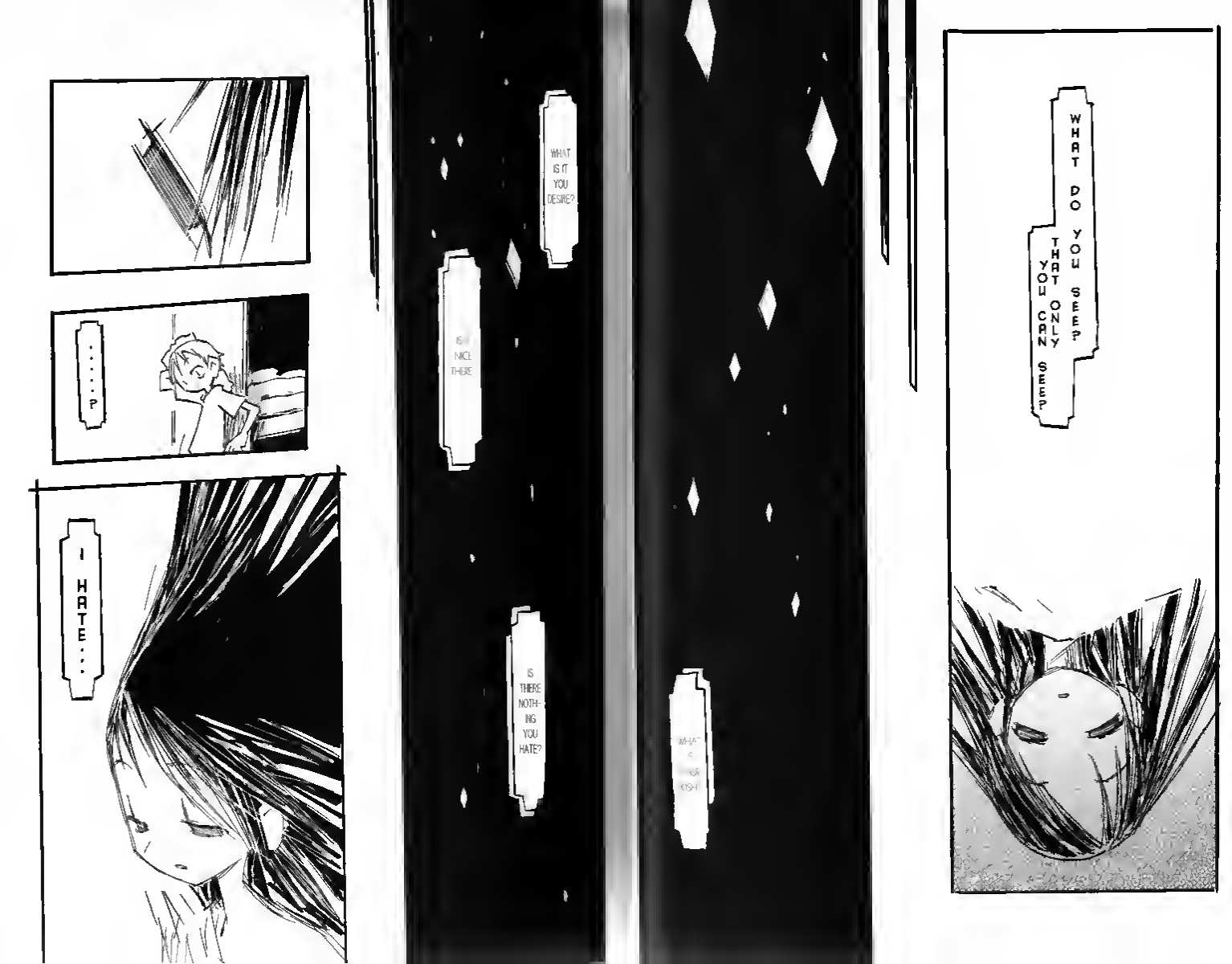
#12

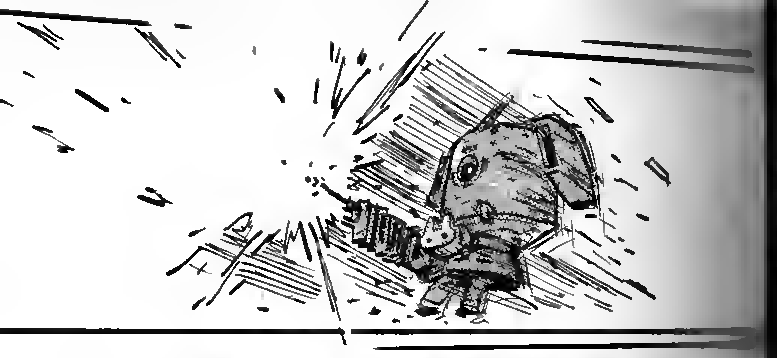
... BIG SISTER Q-KO-SAMA'S TREASON HAPPENED ...
EH? WHAT DID YOU SAY?
.....NOTHING

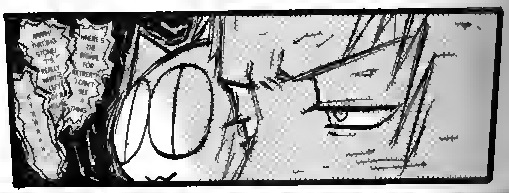


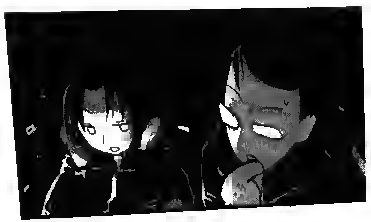

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?




WHAT DO YOU SEE?
THAT ONLY YOU CAN SEE?
WHAT IS IT YOU DESIRE?
IS IT NICE THERE
IS THERE NOTHING YOU HATE?
WHA
UR
YOU
.....?
I HATE...



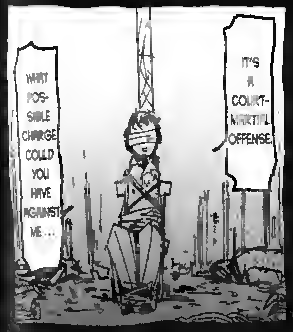




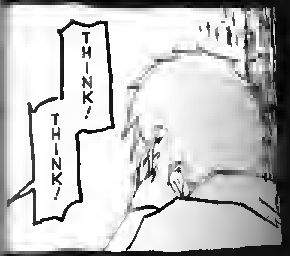
FALL BACK. DON'T FORCE OUR BORDER GUARDS TO TARGET YOU.

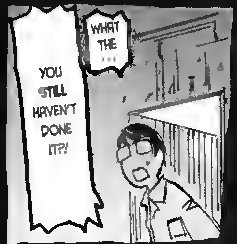
IT'S SOME ORGANIZATION— "JRG G"?

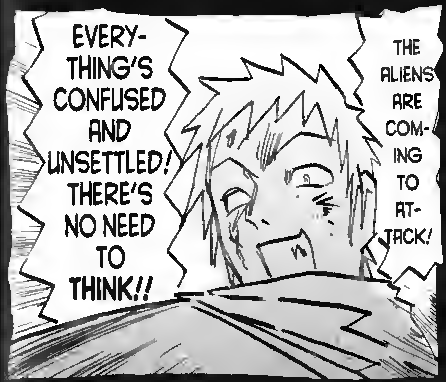
THEY'RE SENDING A FRIENDLY FOE?



WHY WOULD YOU KILL ME?

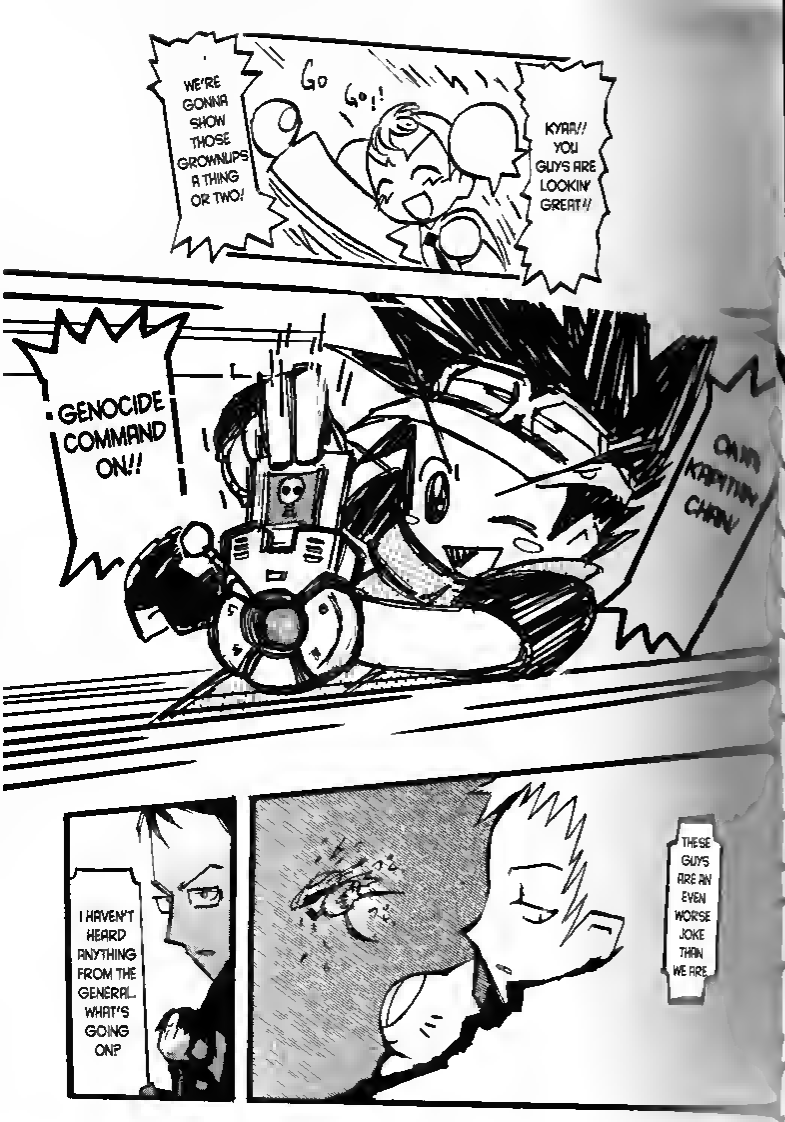




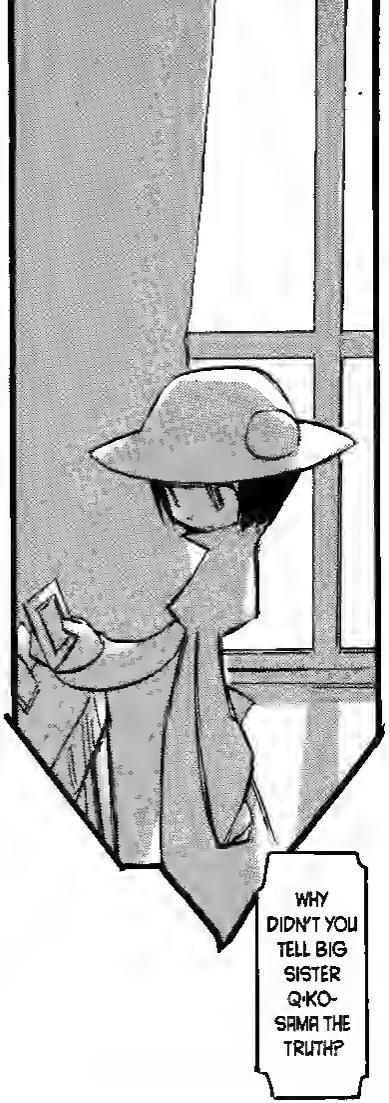


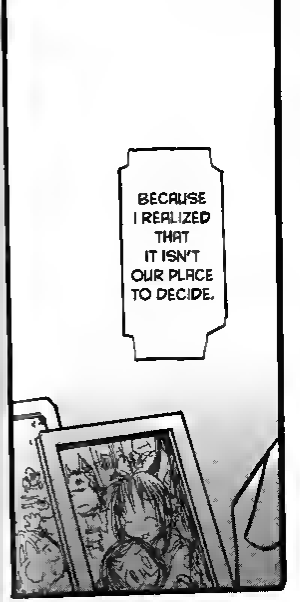
EH?

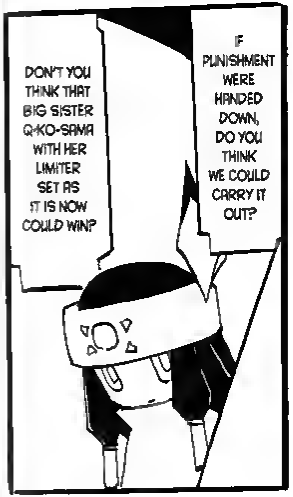
THE ALIENS...

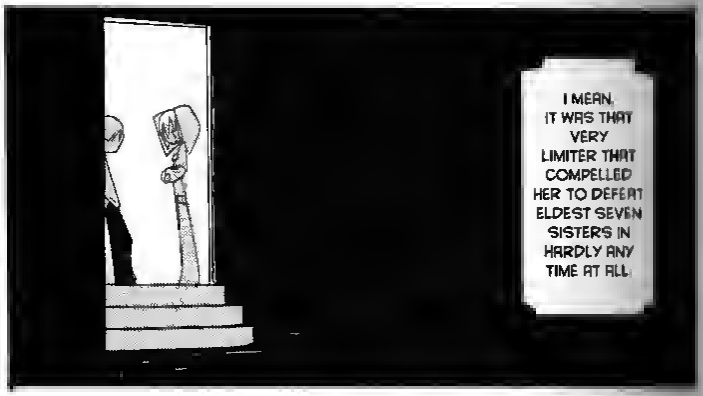

WE'RE GONNA SHOW THOSE GROWNUPS A THING OR TWO!
GO
GO!!
KYAA!! YOU GUYS ARE LOOKIN' GREAT!!
GENOCIDE COMMAND ON!!
OH MY KABUTHIN CHAIN!
I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM THE GENERAL... WHAT'S GOING ON?
THESE GUYS ARE AN EVEN WORSE JOKE THAN WE ARE.

BY US!!
THEY'RE REALLY BEING CONTROLLED? BY WHO?!
IT'S THOSE GUYS WHO PUT ELEC-TRODES IN THE ALIEN'S BRAINS!
... ARE USING THE DUAL GEAR TO SEND ORDERS TO THEM!!
WE, THE CHOSEN CHIL-DREN ...
DEVICE FOR
USING
ALIENS
LUCKY!

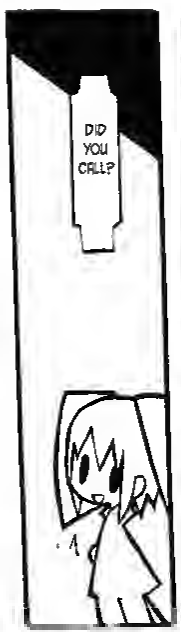

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL BIG SISTER Q-KO-SAMA THE TRUTH?

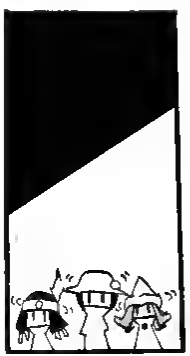

BECAUSE I REALIZED THAT IT ISN'T OUR PLACE TO DECIDE.

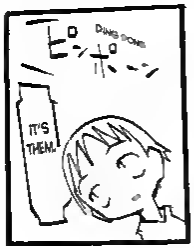

IF PUNISHMENT WERE HANDED DOWN, DO YOU THINK WE COULD CARRY IT OUT?
DON'T YOU THINK THAT BIG SISTER Q-KO-SAMA WITH HER LIMITER SET AS IT IS NOW COULD WIN?


I MEAN, IT WAS THAT VERY LIMITER THAT COMPELLED HER TO DEFEAT ELDEST SEVEN SISTERS IN HARDLY ANY TIME AT ALL.

IT'S BEST, FOR THIS Q-KO-SAMA AS WELL, IF WE KEEP HER AN IDIOT FOR THE TIME BEING.


DID YOU CALL?




DING DONG
IT'S THEM.

OH, IT'S ONLY YOU, INO.
COULD YOU... GIVE THIS TO HER ...?
THE OTHERS SHOULD BE HERE SOON...
I DON'T CARE!
JUST KEEP MY COMING HERE A SECRET FROM MEI AND THE REST!
YOU CAN DO THAT, RIGHT?!!
.....?

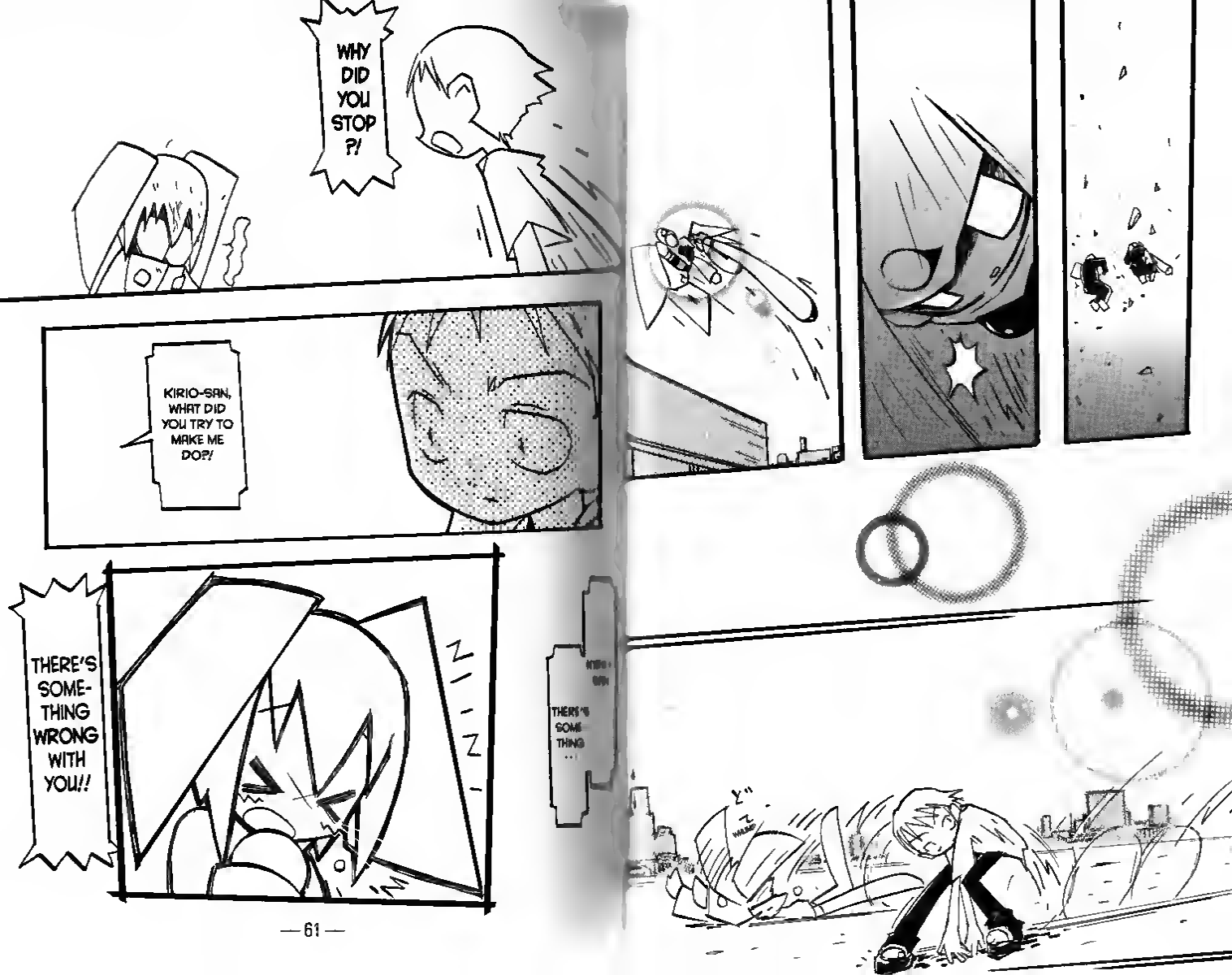
SHE SAID "VV-KO." THAT'S YOU, RIGHT?
IT'S FROM SHINO INO.
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN A BLACK SERIES EAT ANYTHING BUT LIVING FLESH
.....

HMM...
THE TEACHER SAID THAT ANY TROUBLE WILL EARN YOU DEMERITS.
!!
HUH? EVERYTHING'S FINE?
FURIKO TOOK ANOTHER TUMBLE TODAY.
YOU DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL, SO WE THOUGHT THAT MAYBE SOMETHING WAS UP WITH G-KO-CHAN AND THE OTHERS.
THOSE WERE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM THE DOJO THAT TATSUYA USED TO GO TO
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO WOUNDED HIS EYE IN A FIGHT
HE DIDN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW.
BUT DON'T TELL HIM THAT I TOLD YOU.
WHY?
HE THOUGHT IT MADE HIM LOOK WEAK
YOU DON'T FEEL ANYTHING?
...? IT'S KIND OF SCARY

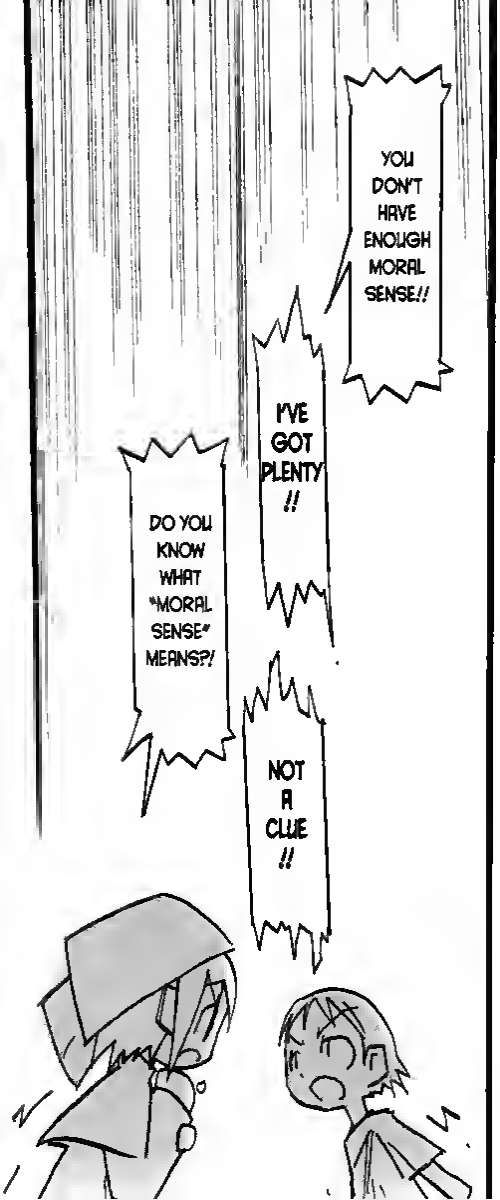
!!
WHERE ARE THOSE GUYS FROM BEFORE?!
WE'RE CIRCLING AROUND?
HUH?
HERE THEY COME AGAIN!

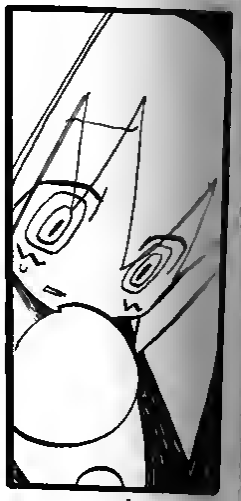
EHP THE OCTOPUS ALIENS AGAIN?
IF YOU PLEASE...
GASHAN!
ガシャ!!
EYAAH?!

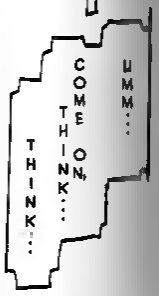
#13

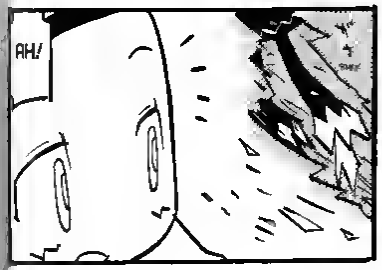

WHY DID YOU STOP?!
KIRIO-SAN, WHAT DID YOU TRY TO MAKE ME DO?!
THERE'S SOME-THING WRONG WITH YOU!!
Z—Z—
THERE'S SOMETHING...
Z"

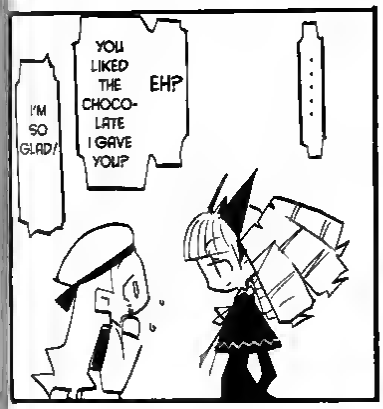
EYAAA!!
THIS IS SCARY!!
EH?!
YOU HAVE WEAP-ONS?!
HMPH!
PAKU NOOK!

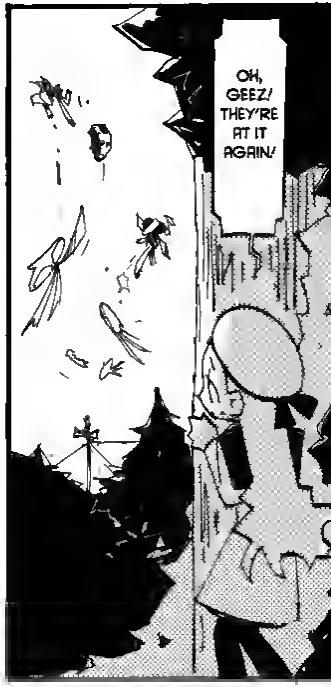

YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MORAL SENSE!!
I'VE GOT PLENTY !!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT "MORAL SENSE" MEANS?!
NOT A CLUE !!



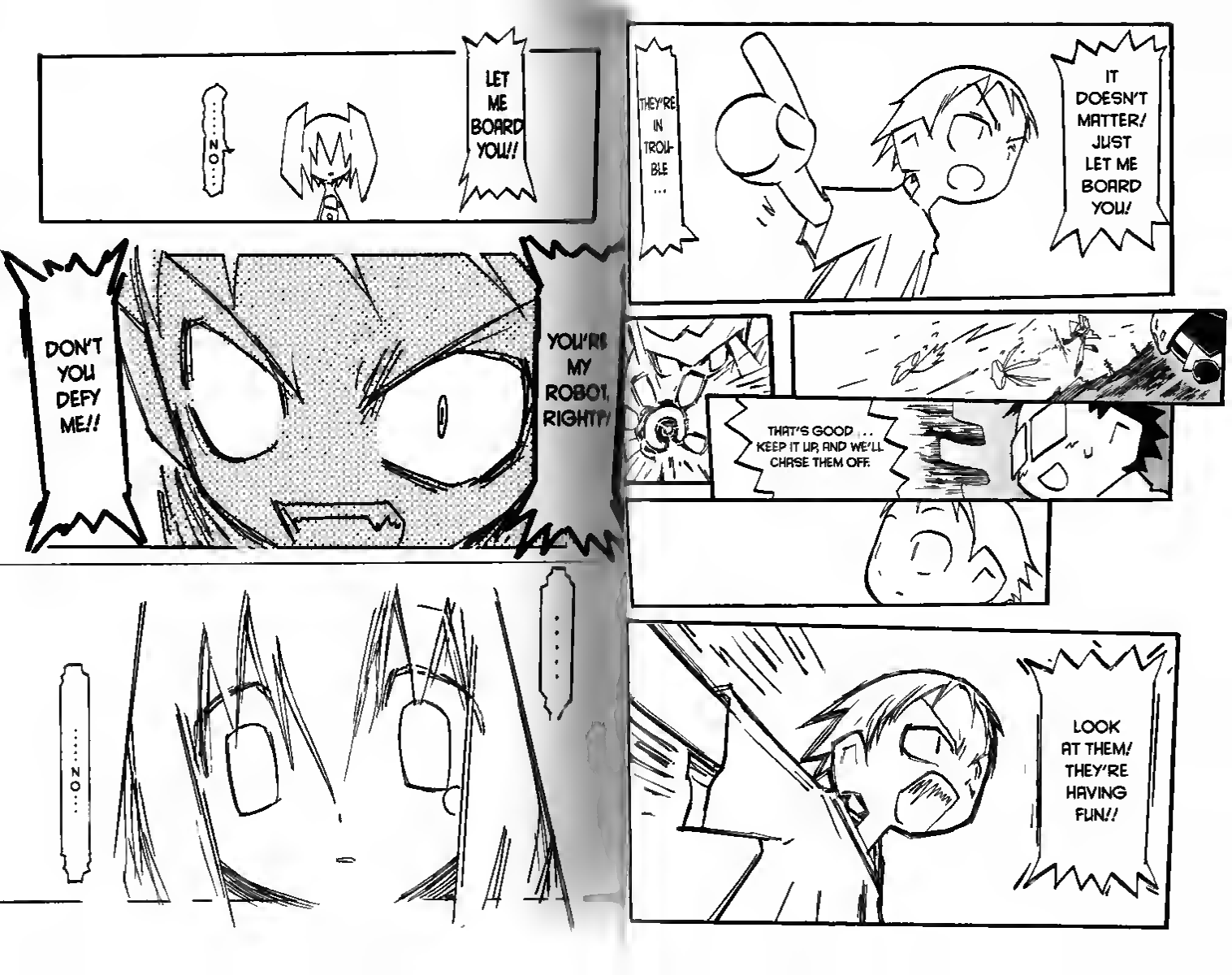

UMM...
COME ON, THINK...
THINK...


AH!


I'M SO GLAD!
YOU LIKED THE CHOCO-LATE I GAVE YOU?
EH?
.....


OH, GEEZ! THEY'RE AT IT AGAIN!

GRRR
ACTUALLY I HAD TO GO PRETTY FAR TO GET IT...


……NO……
LET ME BOARD YOU!!
THEY'RE IN TROUBLE…
IT DOESN'T MATTER! JUST LET ME BOARD YOU!
DON'T YOU DEFY ME!!
YOU'RE MY ROBOT, RIGHT?
THAT'S GOOD… KEEP IT UP, AND WE'LL CHASE THEM OFF.
……NO……
LOOK AT THEM! THEY'RE HAVING FUN!!

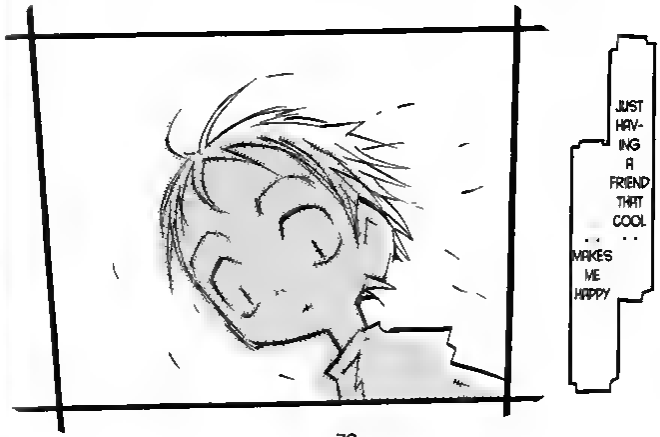
LET ME IN!!
NO!!
I'M AFRAID!
NO!!
SHAKE
YOU MADE A CONNECTION? THAT'S YOUR FUNCTION, ISN'T IT?
THOSE TWO, PLUS . . FUJIKO?
YOU MEAN KIRIO-KUN'S SISTER?
I DON'T QUITE GET IT, BUT IT'S FOR EVERY-ONE'S SAKE, RIGHT?
YES

THOSE GUYS BELOW! TAKE THEM DOWN!!
HEY!
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY WON.
KIRIO...?
WHY...?
NOBODY'D EVER KNOW IN THE CONFUSION.
TIP THE BUILDING ON TOP OF THEM!
I COULD NEVER DO SOMETHING THAT COWARDLY! I'LL BEAT THEM, BUT SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE AND FACE-TO-FACE!!
YOU'RE RIGHT THERE ABOUND NAHO.
THUMP
THUMP
I HATE YOU, KIRIO-SAN!!
.....
.....HATE...?
THIS IS INCREDIBLE! WE PROTECTED THE SPECIAL WARDS!!
WE DID IT! THEY'RE RUNNING AWAY!

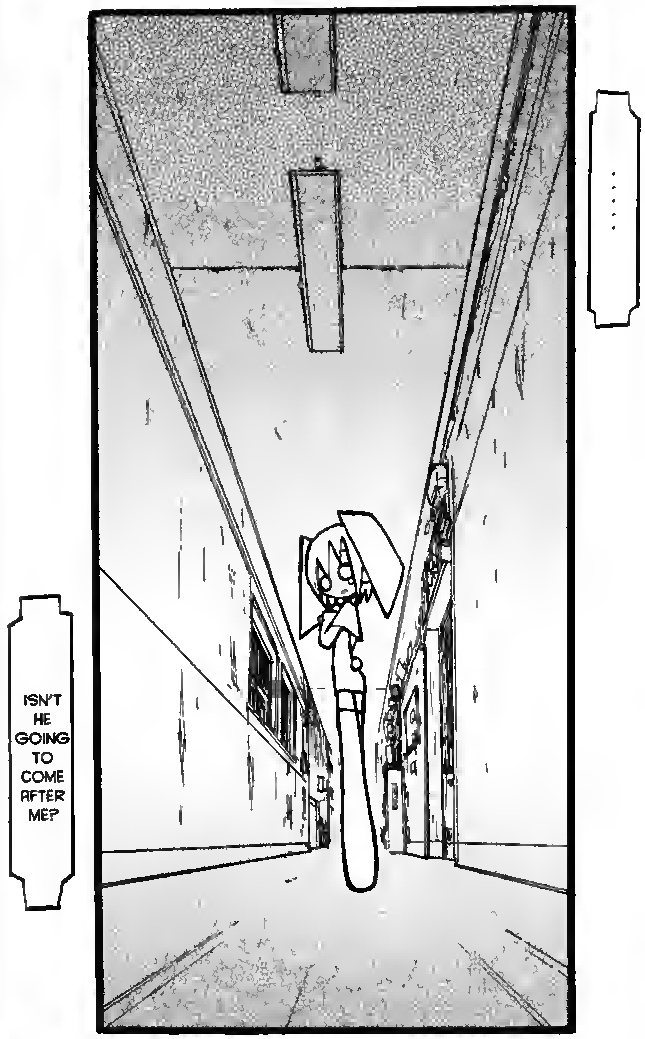
OH...
I GUESS...
I GUESS SO...

HA HA HA HA!
.....?
MOMO-CHAN....?

SOME-TIMES THE THINGS HE SAYS ARE SO PERFECT
HA HA! THAT'S OUR FRIEND OVER THERE

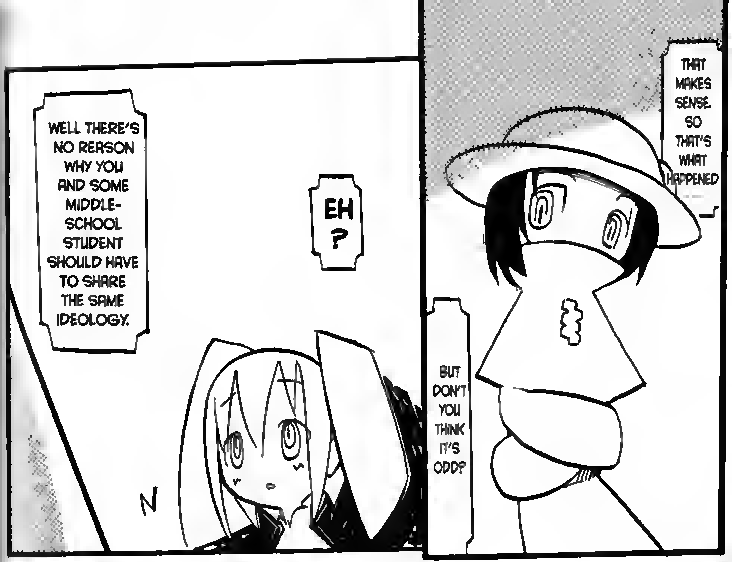

JUST HAV-ING A FRIEND THAT COOL.. MAKES ME HAPPY

#14

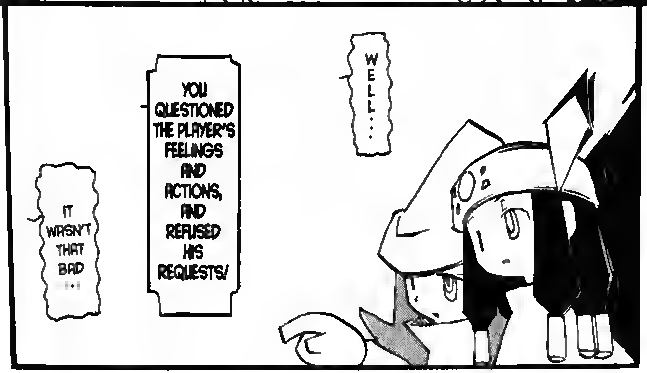

.....
ISN'T HE GOING TO COME AFTER ME?

HE'S GONE, AND IN THIS DARK ALLEY
THERE ARE SOME MILITARY POLICE HERE AND THERE, BUT THAT'S IT.
……WELL?
!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AND WHY HERE?
BIG SISTER Q-KO-SUMA?
BUT IT'S TO BE EXPECTED
THERE ARE VERY FEW PEOPLE FOR THE FACILITIES.
HUH?
I CAN'T EVER SHOW MY FACE TO KIRIO AGAIN
A HIGH-CLASS WAY TO FALL INTO RUIN.
SINGING WHILE SHE CRIES?

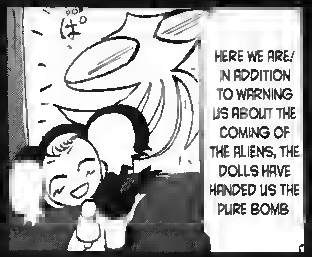
AND IT'S POSSIBLE THE ERROR STEMS FROM...
THAT'S A GRAVE MALFUNCTION...
EHH?!??
LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH THE BOY.
LO-
LOVE AT FIRST...


WELL THERE'S NO REASON WHY YOU AND SOME MIDDLE-SCHOOL STUDENT SHOULD HAVE TO SHARE THE SAME IDEOLOGY.
EH?
BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ODD?
THAT MAKES SENSE. SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED...

WHO MAKES THE MORAL JUDGMENTS, AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE?
BUT, YOU KNOW... MORALLY SPEAKING...
NOT EXACTLY...
I'M NOT SAYING IT HAS TO BE THE SAME IDEOLOGY...

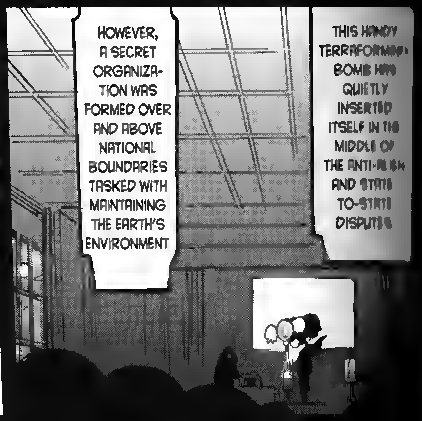

WELL...
YOU QUESTIONED THE PLAYER'S FEELINGS AND ACTIONS, AND REFUSED HIS REQUESTS!
IT WASN'T THAT BAD...

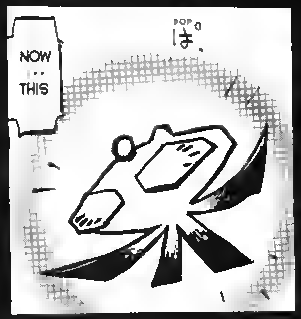
THAT IS A SIMULATION OF WHAT SENTIENT BEINGS CALL "LOVE."
Q-KO-SAMA?
EHP
EHP
YOU'RE FULLY AWARE OF THE SITUATION, RIGHT?
ANY FURTHER ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE YOURSELF UPON THE PLAYER IS A DIRECT VIOLATION OF EVERYTHING WE WELFARE MACHINES STAND FOR!!
MOREOVER YOU WISHED FOR THE PLAYER TO BE KIND TO YOU OR FOR THE PLAYER TO FEEL THE SAME FEELINGS FOR YOU.
YOU BECAME MORE ATTACHED TO THE PLAYER THAN REGULATIONS ALLOW!
THAT FORCES UN-REASONABLE, SELFISH DEMANDS ON THE PLAYER!!


HERE WE ARE! IN ADDITION TO WARNING US ABOUT THE COMING OF THE ALIENS, THE DOLLS HAVE HANDED US THE PURE BOMB.

UM...
TESTING, TESTING.
SHUSSH

THAT IS US, "JRG G" UM. WAS US.


HOWEVER, A SECRET ORGANIZATION WAS FORMED OVER AND ABOVE NATIONAL BOUNDARIES TASKED WITH MAINTAINING THE EARTH'S ENVIRONMENT
THIS HANDY TERRAFORMING BOMB WAS QUIETLY INSERTED ITSELF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ANTI-RUSH AND STATE-TO-STATE DISPUTES


NOW... THIS

HUH? YOU AREN'T ANY-MORE?
TAKE IT EASY
AWW. SHE'S GOING WAY BEYOND WHAT I WANT TO KNOW.

YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH KIRIO-SAN, AREN'T YOU?!

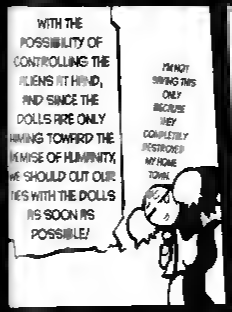
YES... I DON'T SEE KIRIO'S TRUE FACE ANY-MORE.
UNTIL YOU ARE REQUIRED, YOU SHOULD AVOID ANY ACTIONS YOU HAVEN'T CAREFULLY PREPARED FOR.

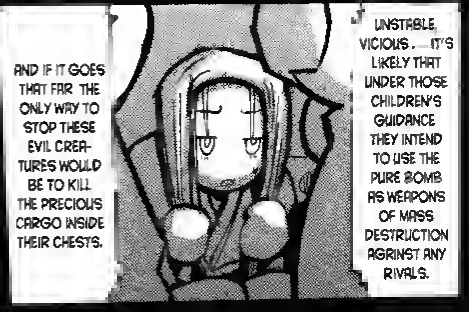
WHAT CAN I DO?
WHAT'LL YOU DO? HER UNDER-STANDING IS BARELY EVEN SURFACE LEVEL.
I NEVER HEARD OF THAT

HOLD YOUR BREATH!
DON'T EVEN LOOK AT THEM.
WE CAN'T IGNORE THIS! THE SAME THING IS HAPPENING TO OUR COUNTRY

IT'S OPPOSED TO THE DOLLS WITH CHILDREN INSIDE THEM...

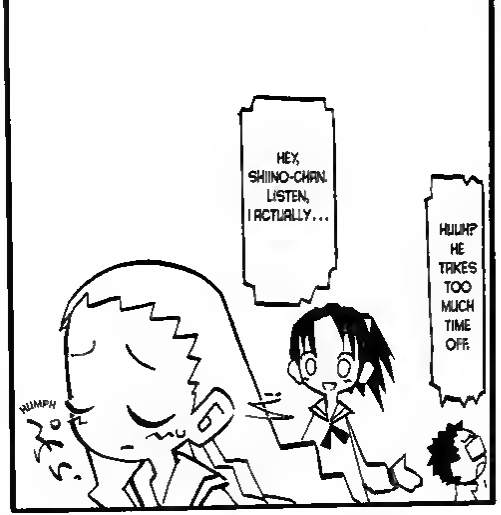
TO AN OUTSIDER, IT MAY SEEM LIKE IT'S THE ALIENS WHO ARE THE ROBOTS SINCE THEY'RE SO OBEDIENT AND PRETTY!
THE "CHOSEN CHILDREN," THOSE WITH PURE HEARTS, USE THIS DEVICE TO EXERT ALL POSSIBLE CONTROL OVER THEIR ALIEN THROUGH A SERIES OF BATTLES USING NURTURE CARDS.
"TIPSY" IS THE PRODUCT OF OUR RESEARCH


WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTROLLING THE ALIENS AT HAND, AND SINCE THE DOLLS ARE ONLY AIMING TOWARD THE DEMISE OF HUMANITY, WE SHOULD CUT OUR TIES WITH THE DOLLS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!
I'M NOT SAYING THIS ONLY BECAUSE THEY COMPLETELY DESTROYED MY HOME TOWN.


AND IF IT GOES THAT FAR THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THESE EVIL CREATURES WOULD BE TO KILL THE PRECIOUS CARGO INSIDE THEIR CHESTS.
UNSTABLE, VICIOUS... IT'S LIKELY THAT UNDER THOSE CHILDREN'S GUIDANCE THEY INTEND TO USE THE PURE BOMB AS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AGAINST ANY RIVALS.

COULD IT BE THAT HE DOESN'T TRUST SECRET ORGANIZATIONS?

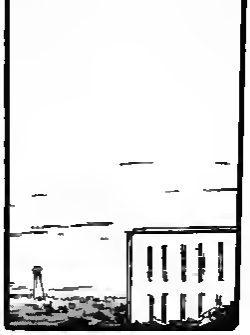
MIGHT HE HAVE SOME SECRET PACT WITH THE DOLLS?
BUT FOR SOME REASON, THE GENERAL OF THE BLACK HARES WON'T GET ON BOARD.

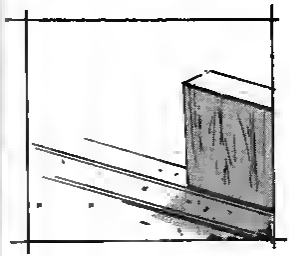

HEY, SHIINO-CHAN. LISTEN, I ACTUALLY...
HULHP HE TAKES TOO MUCH TIME OFF.
HUMPH

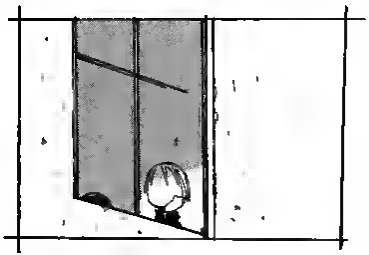
HE SAID HE WAS GOING HOME EARLY AND LEFT.

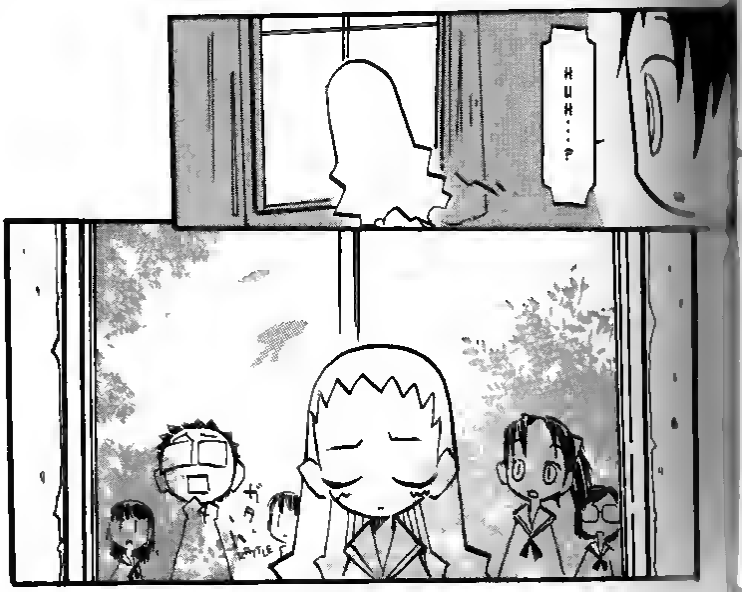
SHIP WHERE'S KIRIO?

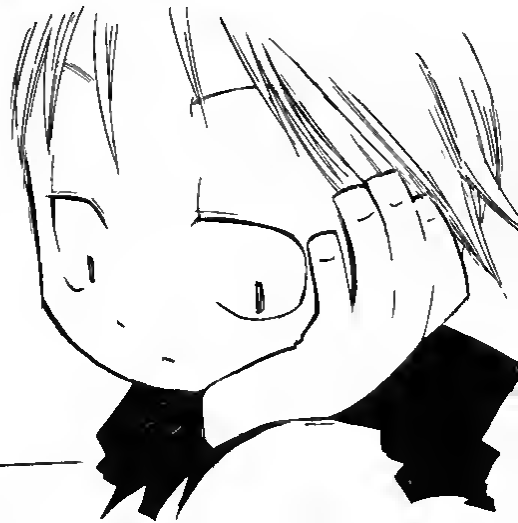
EASTERN JAPAN EMPIRE
WESTERN JAPANESE PEOPLE'S REPU
AH... IN THAT SAME YEAR, THE "SPECIAL PROVISIONS PROTECTING CITIZENS' PROPERTY AND WELL-BEING" OR MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE UBOSUTEYAMA LAW WAS ENACTED AND THANKS TO IT, THE JAPANESE SOCIETY WHICH WAS BREATHING ITS LAST

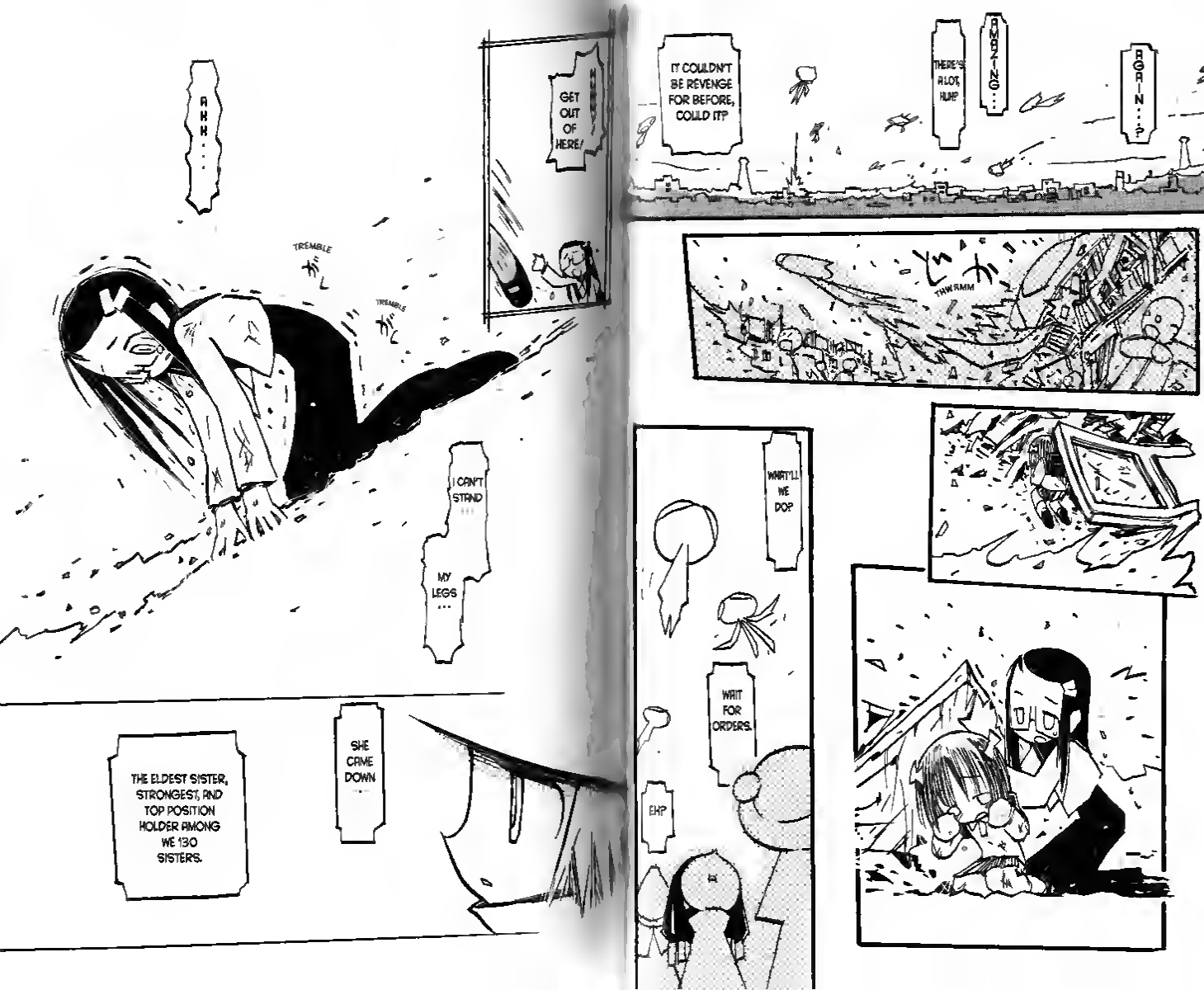


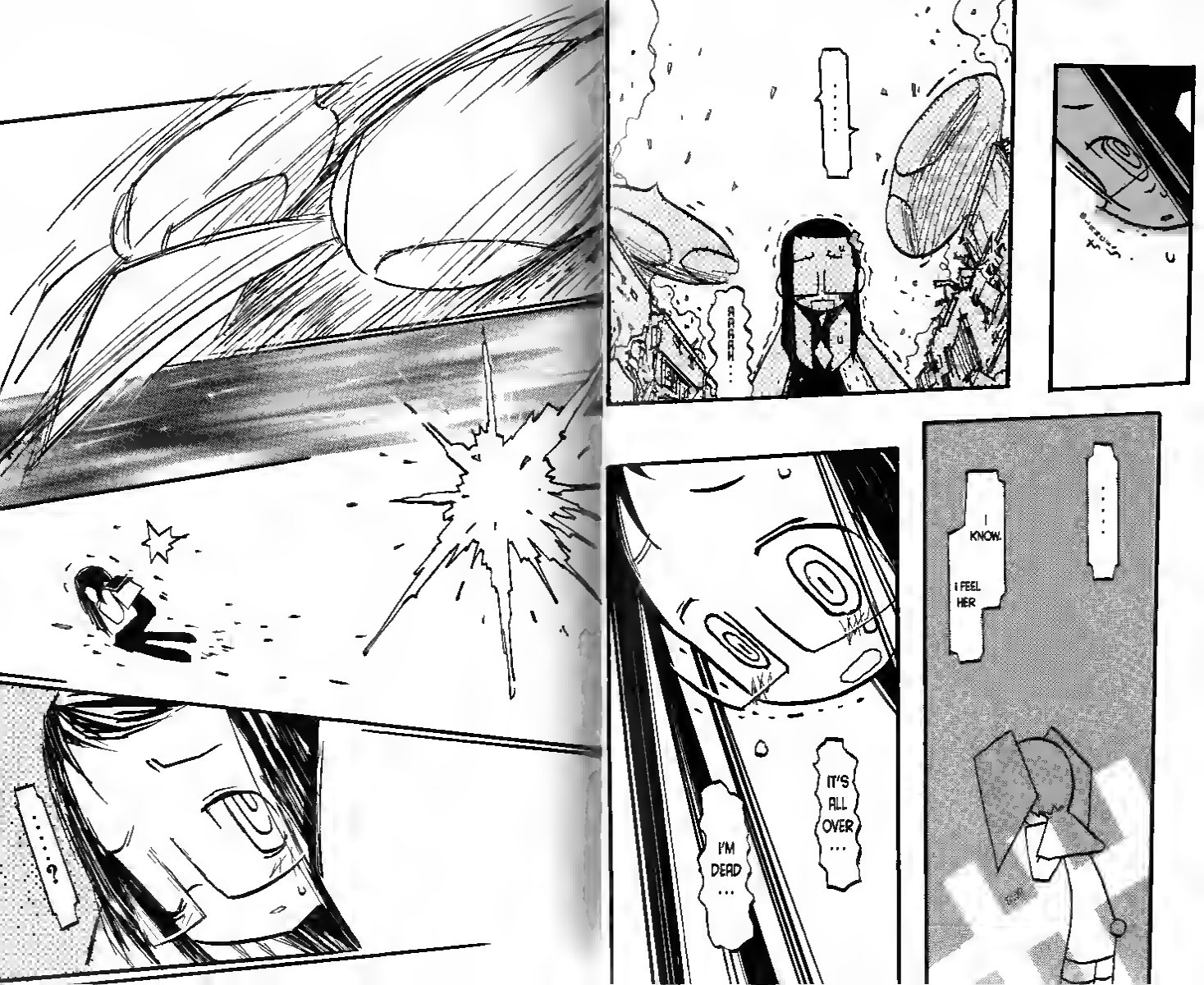


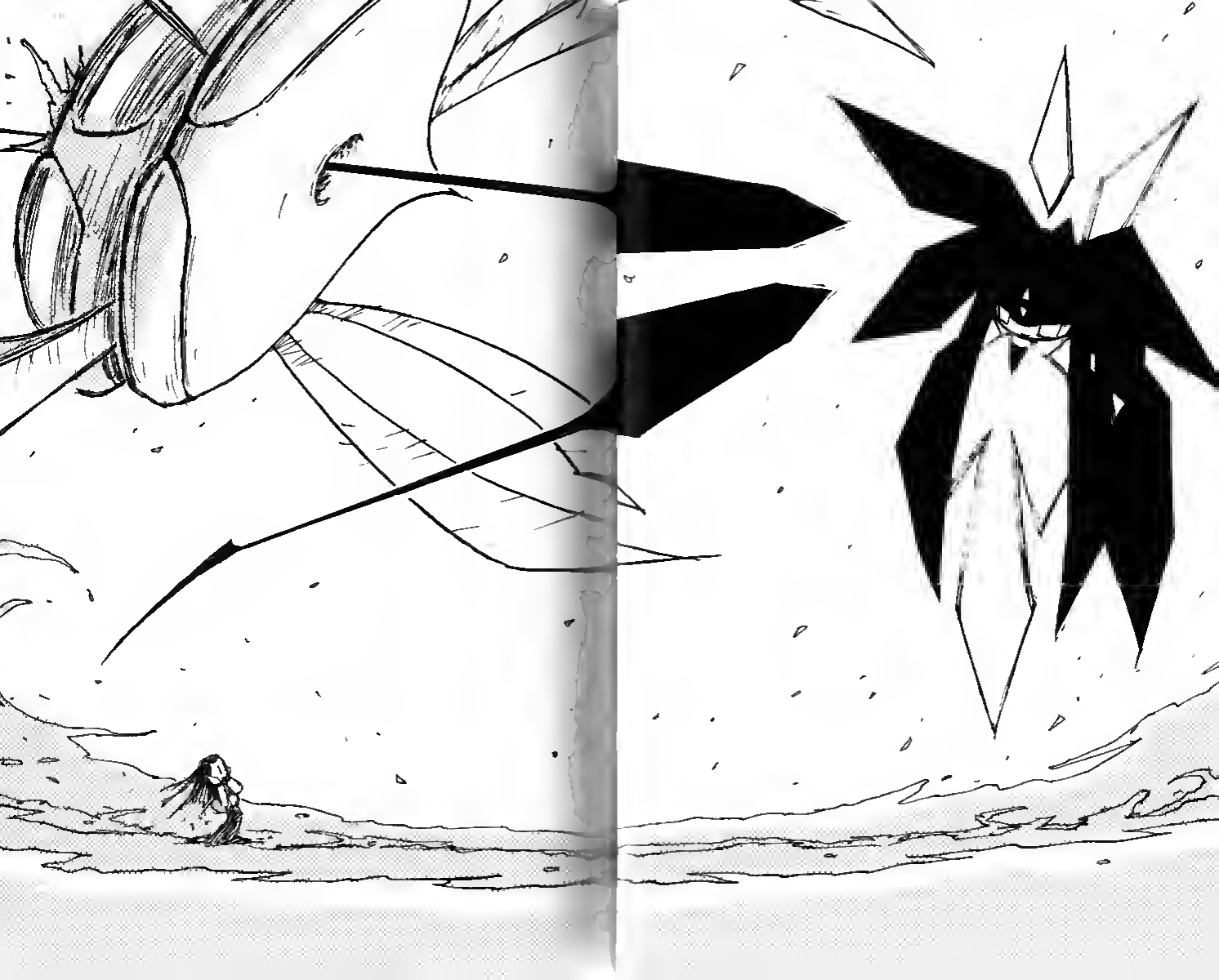


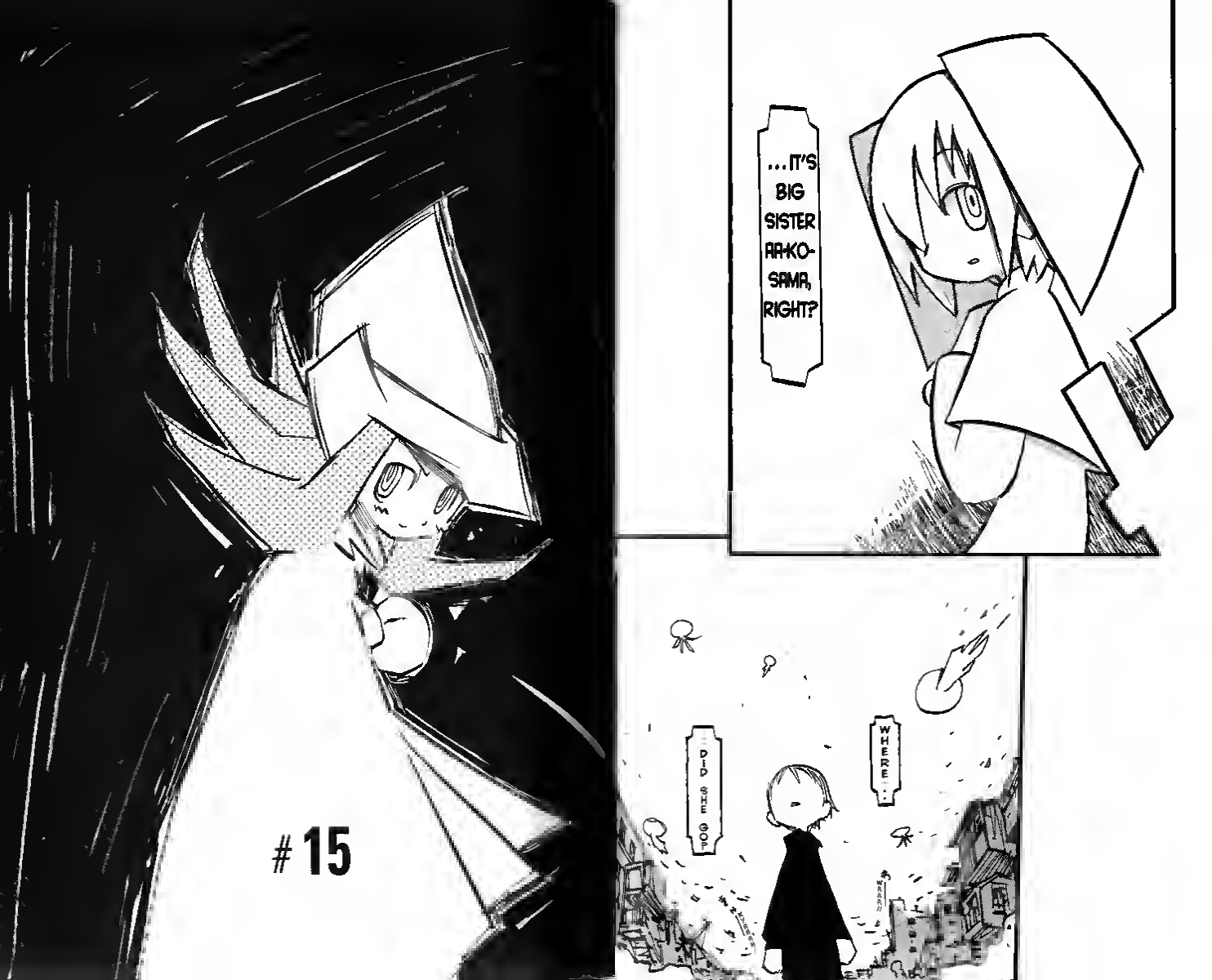

HUH...?

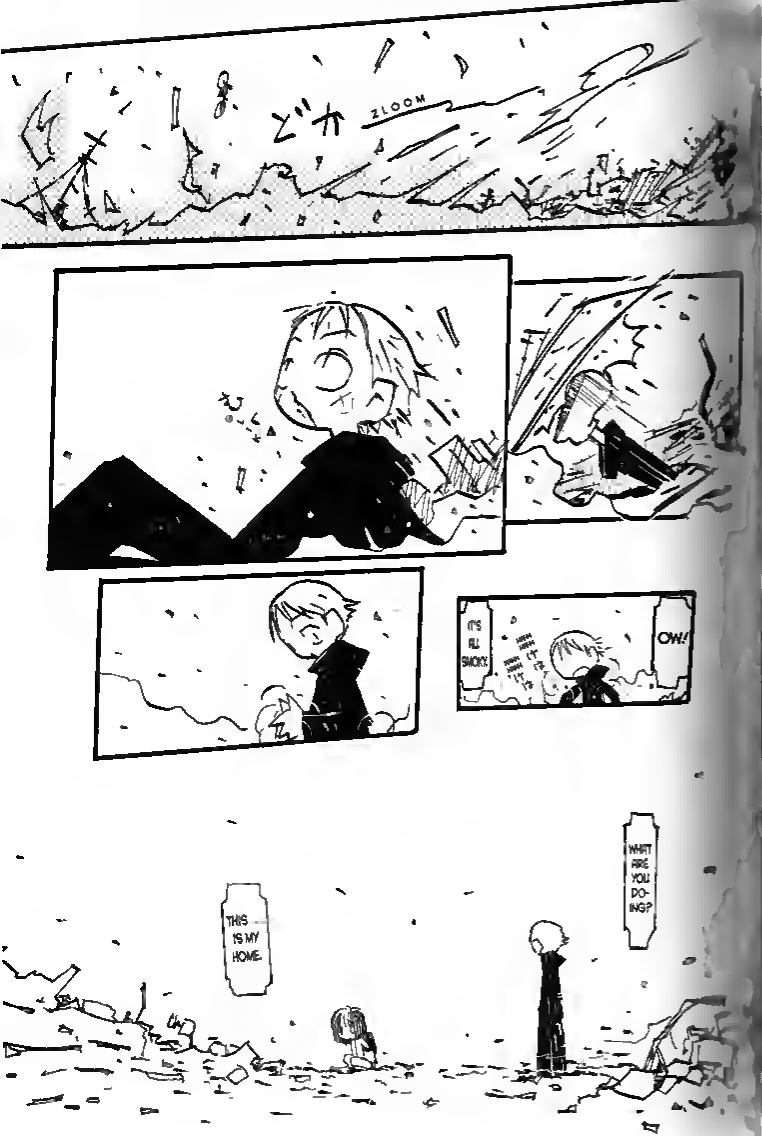


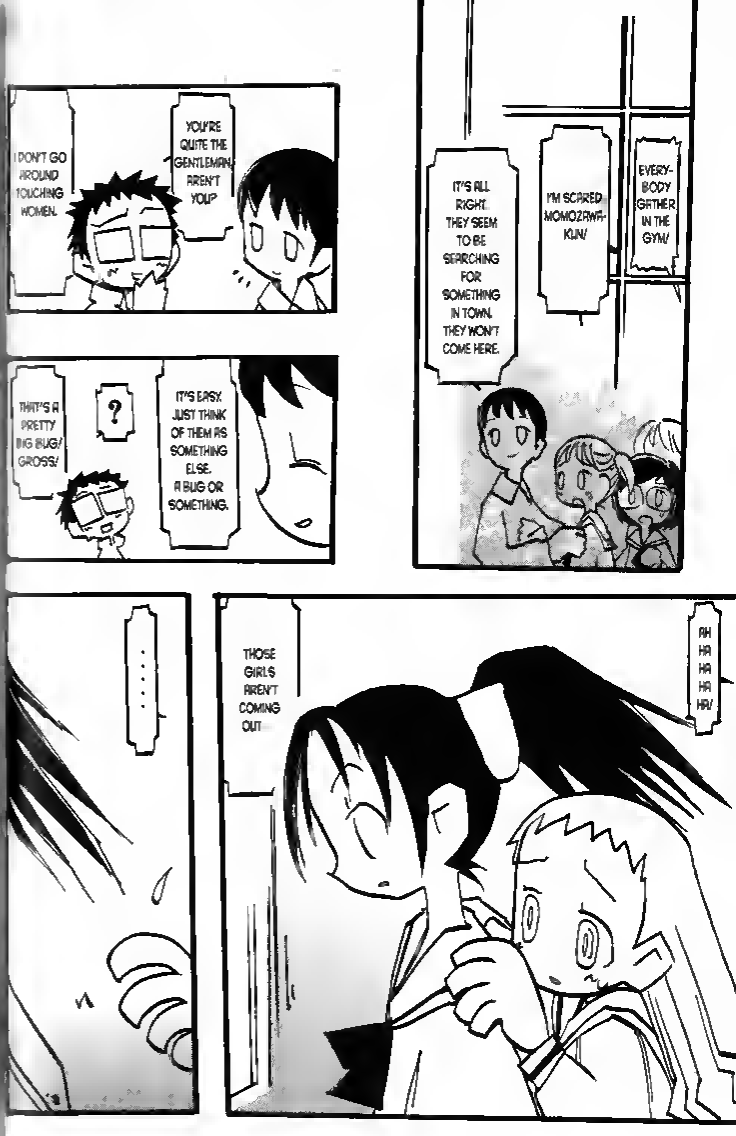

AHH...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
I CAN'T STAND
MY LEGS...
GET OUT OF HERE!
SHE CAME DOWN.
THE ELDEST SISTER, STRONGEST, AND TOP POSITION HOLDER AMONG WE 130 SISTERS.
IT COULDN'T BE REVENGE FOR BEFORE, COULD IT?
THERE'S A LOT, HUH?
AGAIN...?
AGAIN...?
THWAMM
WHAT'LL WE DO?
WAIT FOR ORDERS.
EH?


.....?
I'M DEAD ...
IT'S ALL OVER ...
I KNOW.
I FEEL HER
.....

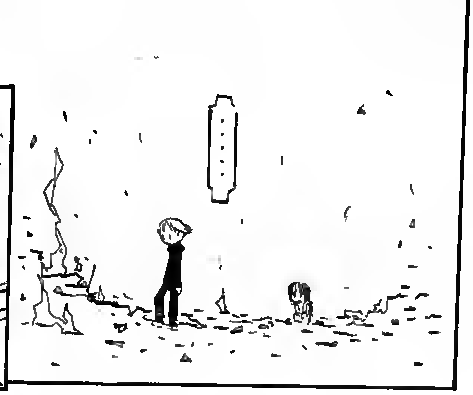


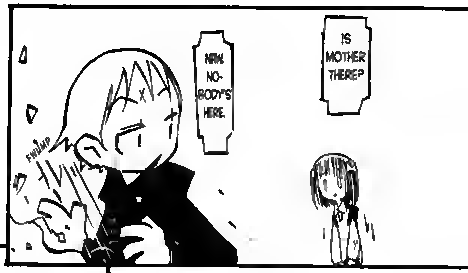

#15
...IT'S BIG SISTER AH-KO-SAMA, RIGHT?
WHERE...
DID SHE GO?

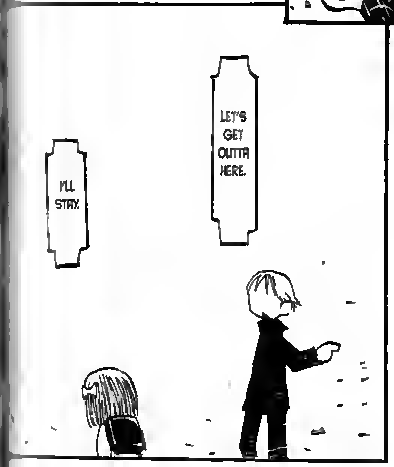

ZLOOM
THIS IS MY HOME.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IT'S ALL SHOCK!
OW!

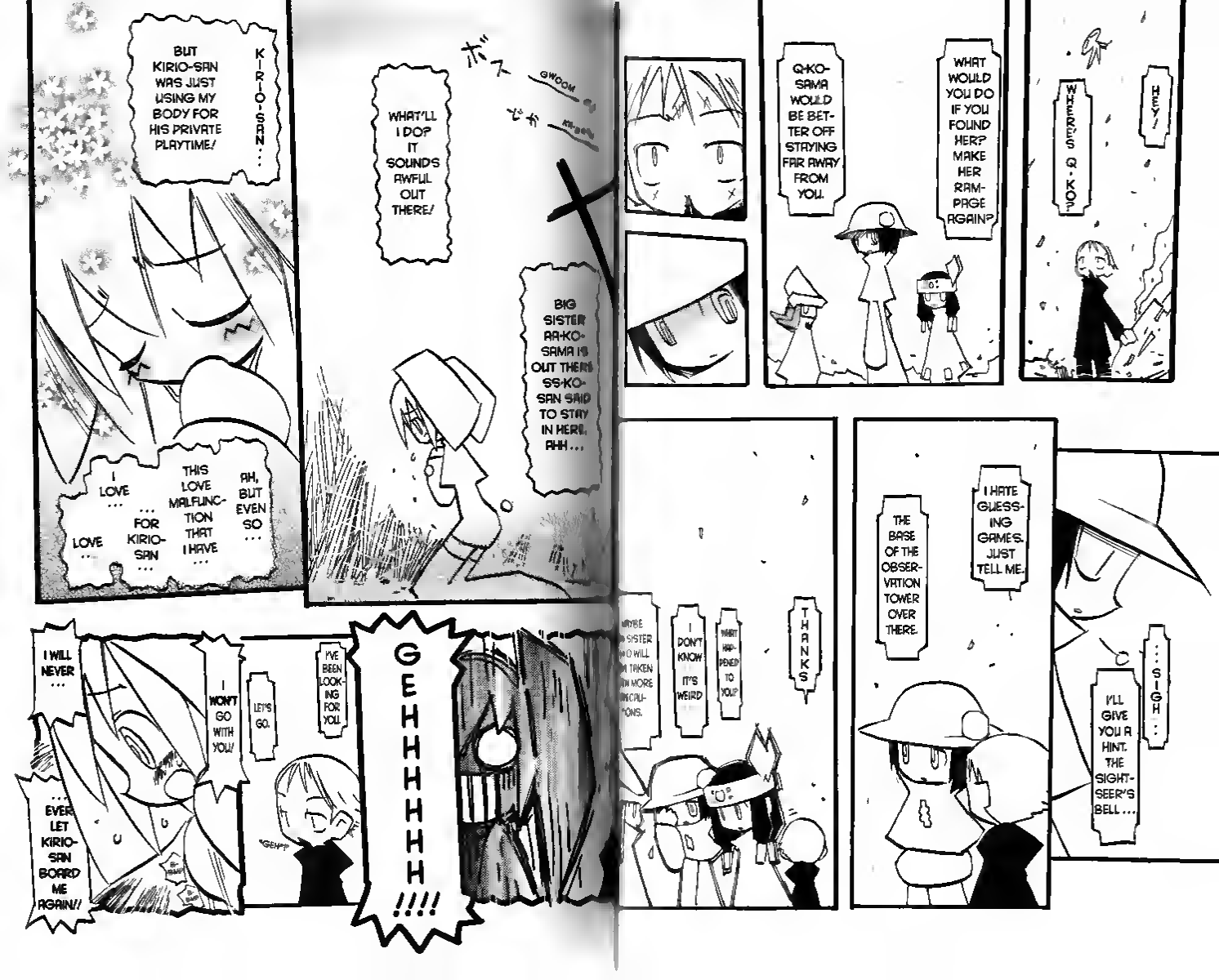

I DON'T GO AROUND TOUCHING WOMEN.
YOU'RE QUITE THE GENTLEMAN, AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S A PRETTY BIG BUG! GROSS!
?
IT'S EASY. JUST THINK OF THEM AS SOMETHING ELSE. A BUG OR SOMETHING.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. THEY SEEM TO BE SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING IN TOWN. THEY WON'T COME HERE.
I'M SCARED MOMOZAWA-KUN!
EVERYBODY GATHER IN THE GYM!
...
THOSE GIRLS AREN'T COMING OUT.
AH HA HA HA HA HA!

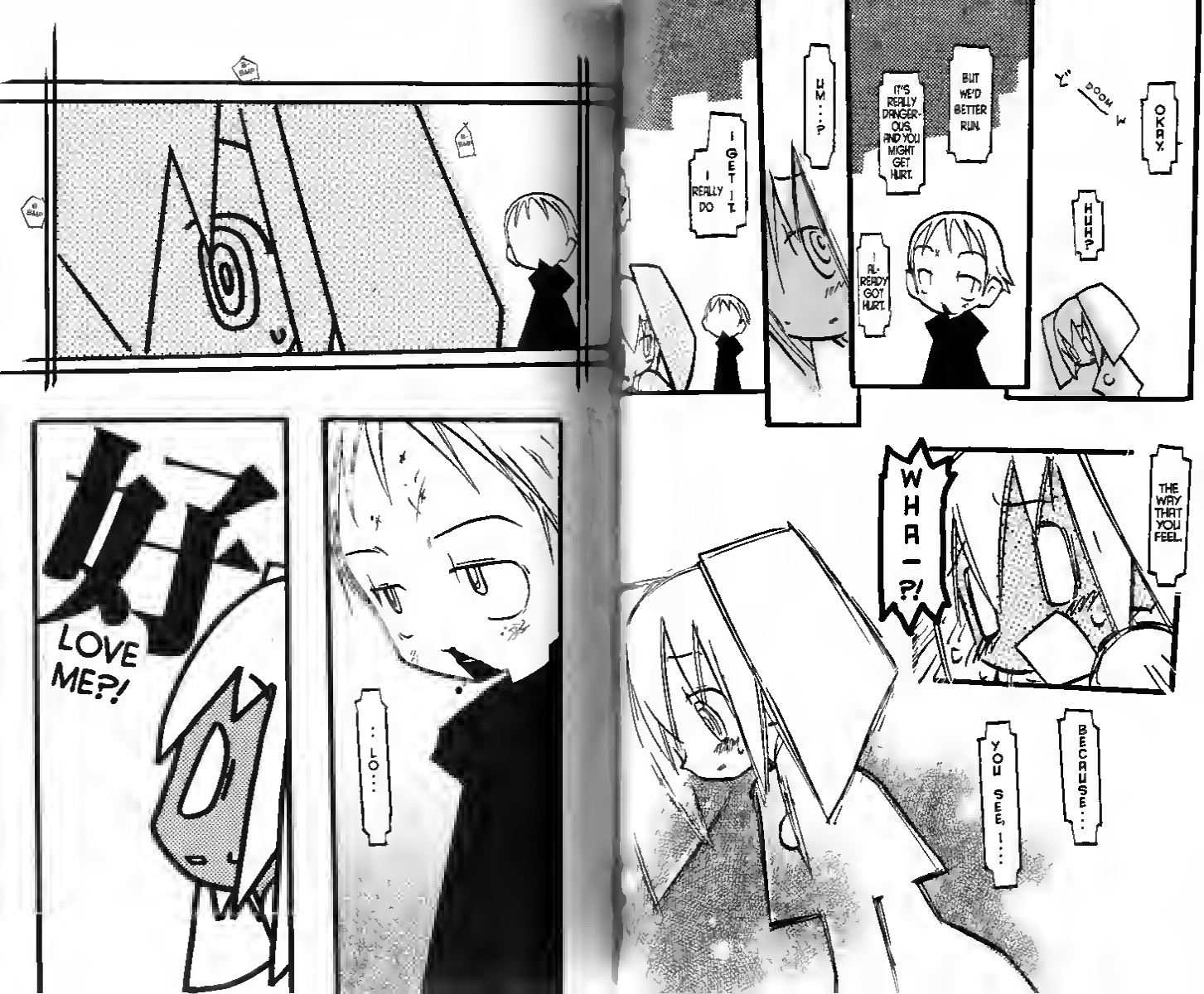
!!
IN-CRED-IBLE
YOU'RE PRETTY STRONG, HM?

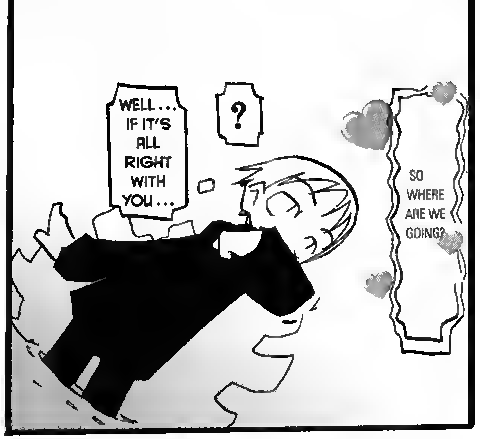


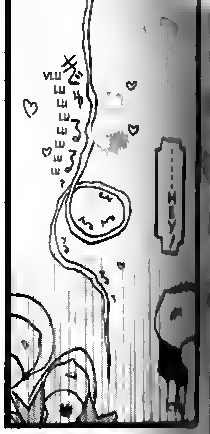

HMM. NOBODY'S HERE.
IS MOTHER THERE?

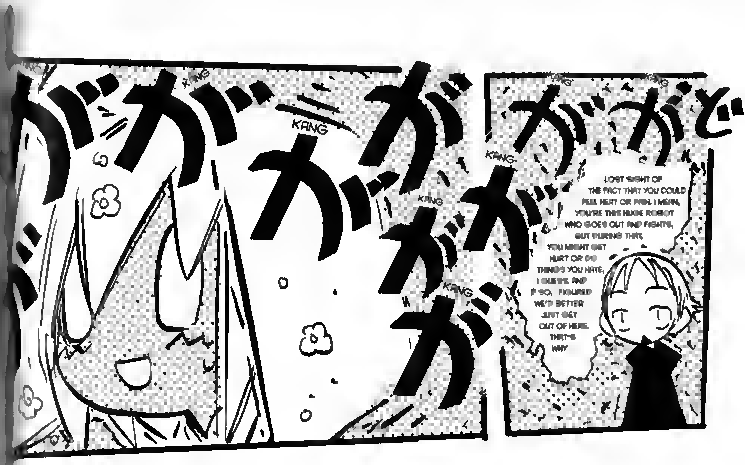

I'LL STAY.
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE.

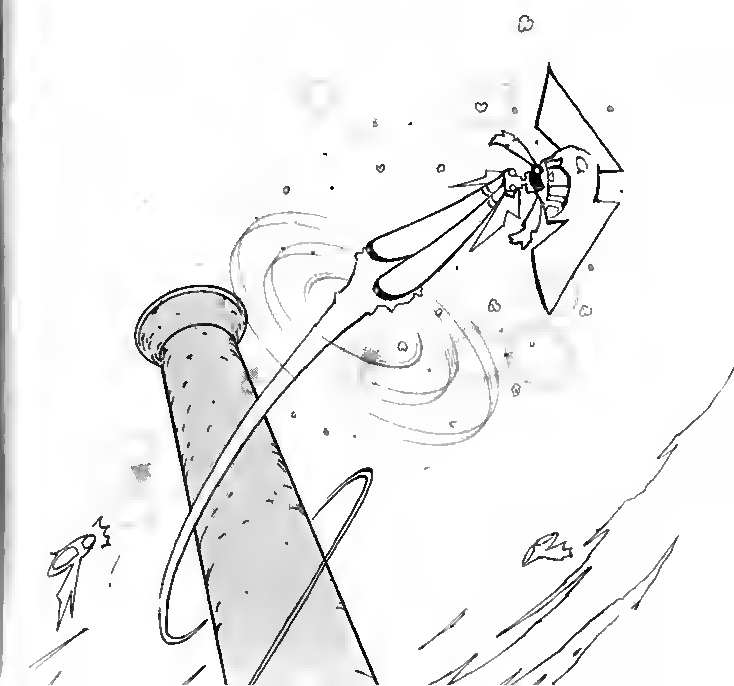

KIRIO-SAN...
BUT KIRIO-SAN WAS JUST USING MY BODY FOR HIS PRIVATE PLAYTIME!
LOVE...
I LOVE...
...FOR KIRIO-SAN...
THIS LOVE MALFUNCTION THAT I HAVE...
AH, BUT EVEN SO...
WHAT'LL I DO? IT SOUNDS AWFUL OUT THERE!
GWOOM
BIG SISTER RA-KO-SAMA IS OUT THERE! SS-KO-SAN SAID TO STAY IN HERE! AHH...
WHERE'D Q-KO?
HEY!
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU FOUND HER? MAKE HER RAMPAGE AGAIN?
Q-KO-SAMA WOULD BE BETTER OFF STAYING FAR AWAY FROM YOU.
...SIGH...
I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT. THE SIGHTSEER'S BELL...
I HATE GUESSING GAMES. JUST TELL ME.
THE BASE OF THE OBSERVATION TOWER OVER THERE.
THANKS
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
I DON'T KNOW. IT'S WEIRD
MAYBE SISTER O WILL BE TAKEN AWAY MORE SPECIALIZATIONS.
GEHHHHH!!!!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.
LET'S GO.
"GEH?"
I WON'T GO WITH YOU!
I WILL NEVER...
...EVER LET KIRIO-SAN BOARD ME AGAIN!!


OKAY
ZOOM
HUH?
BUT WE'D BETTER RUN.
IT'S REALLY DANGEROUS, AND YOU MIGHT GET HURT.
I ALREADY GOT HURT.
UM...?
I REALLY DO GET IT
B-BAM
B-BAM
B-BAM
WHA—?!
THE WAY THAT YOU FEEL.
BECAUSE...
YOU SEE, I...
...LO...
LOVE ME?!


WELL... IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU...
?
SO WHERE ARE WE GOING?


HEY!


KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
I JUST WONDER IF THE FACT THAT YOU COULD FEEL HURT OR PAIN. I MEAN, YOU'RE THIS MAKE ROBOT WHO GOES OUT AND FIGHTS, BUT DURING THAT, YOU MIGHT GET HURT OR DO THINGS YOU HATE. I GUESS WE AND IF SO, FIGURED WE'D BETTER JUST GET OUT OF HERE. THAT'S WHY



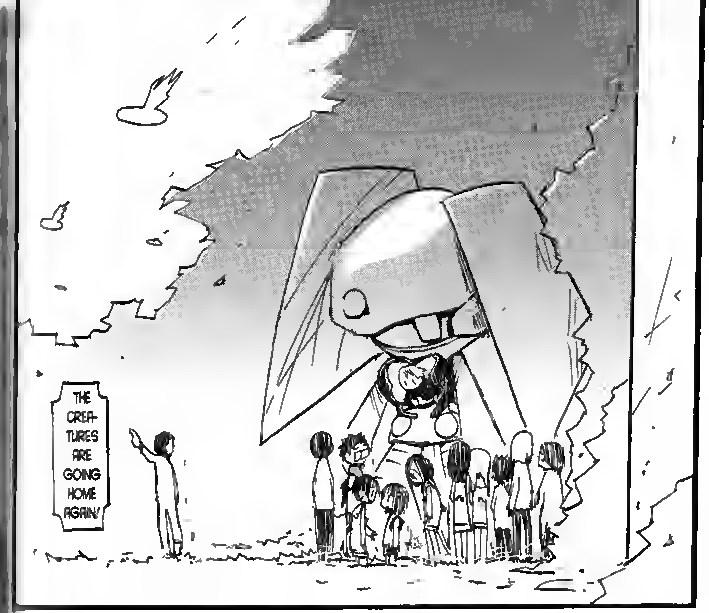
HA!
HE~
HA!
HA HA!
...HEH...

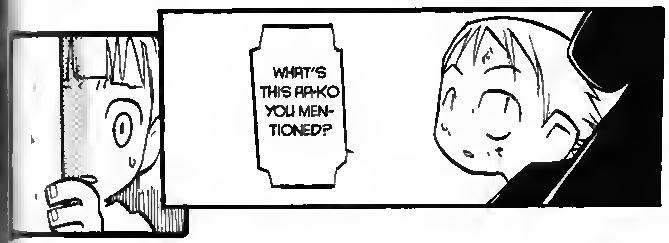
?!

ARE YOU GOING TO BE DEFEATED?
BECAUSE A POWERFUL ENEMY APPEARED?
THE MOST POWERFUL ENEMY...?
THE WHOLE SCHOOL IS GATHERED IN THE GYM!
!!

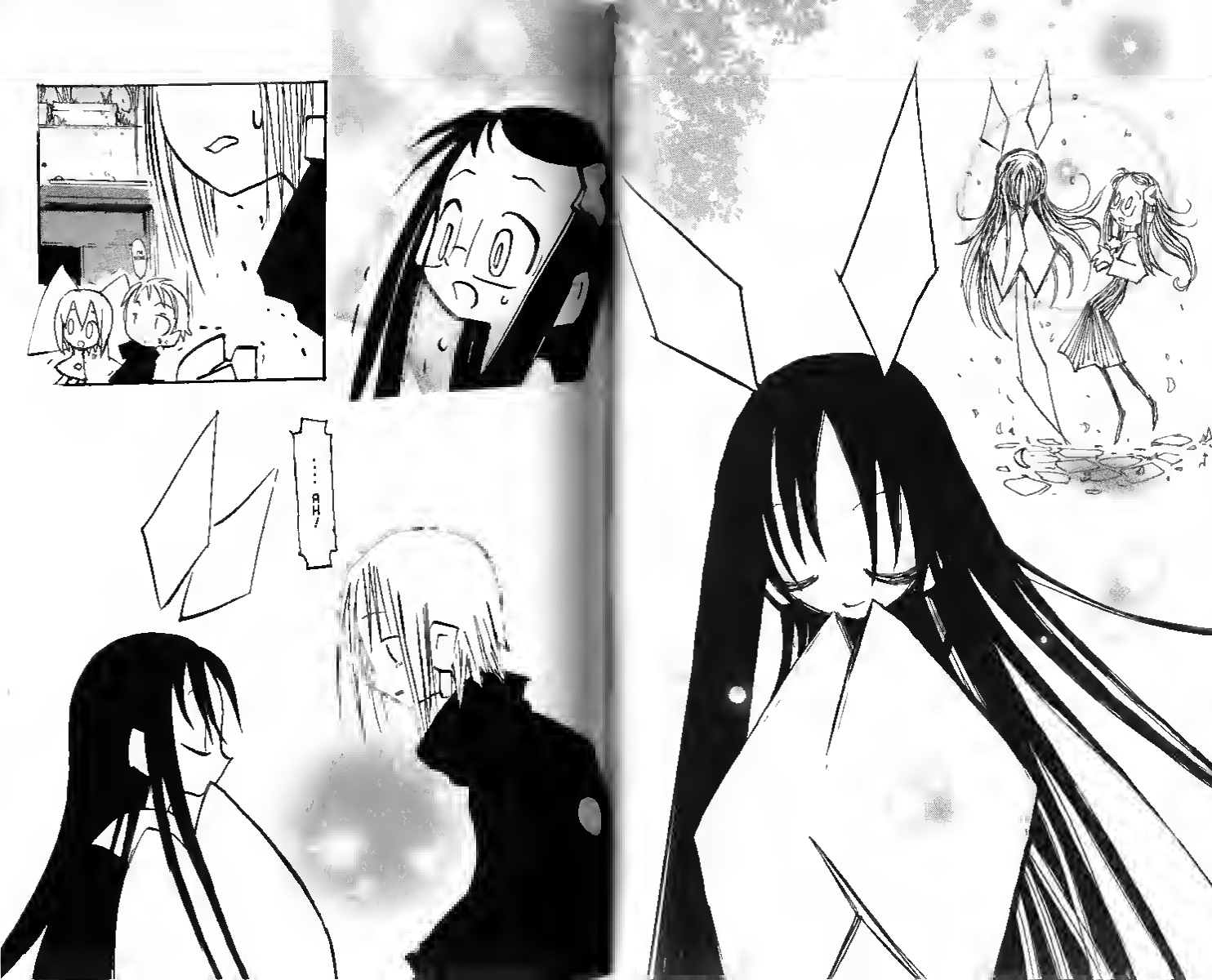
WHY?!
BIG SISTER AA-KO-SAMA?!
TAT TAT TAT TAT TAT
LET'S DROP THIS GIRL OFF AT THE SCHOOL.

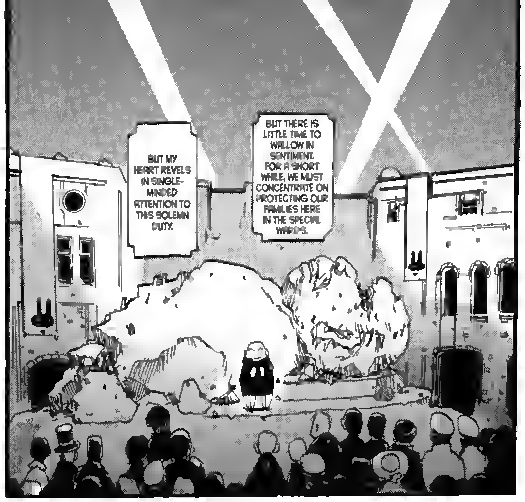
GRNN
I'M HOME/ FURIKO? KIRIO/ ARE YOU KIDS ALL . . .
RATTLE
RATTLE
...RIGHT...?


THE CREATURES ARE GOING HOME AGAIN/

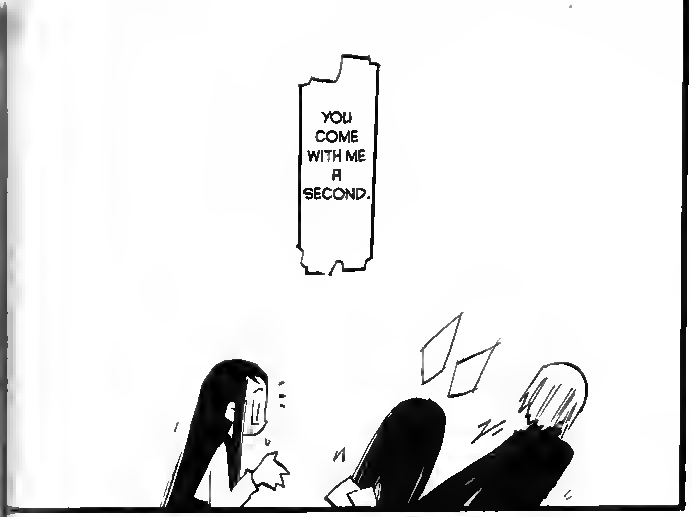

WHAT'S THIS AYAKO YOU MENTIONED?

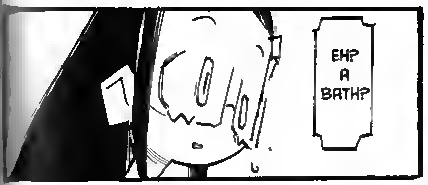
#16

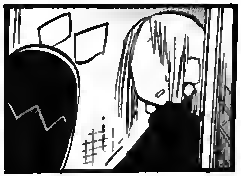

……ねえ


BUT MY HEART REVELS IN SINGLE-MINDED ATTENTION TO THIS SOLEMN DUTY.
BUT THERE IS LITTLE TIME TO WALLOW IN SENTIMENT. FOR A SHORT WHILE, WE MUST CONCENTRATE ON PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES HERE IN THE SPECIAL WARDS.

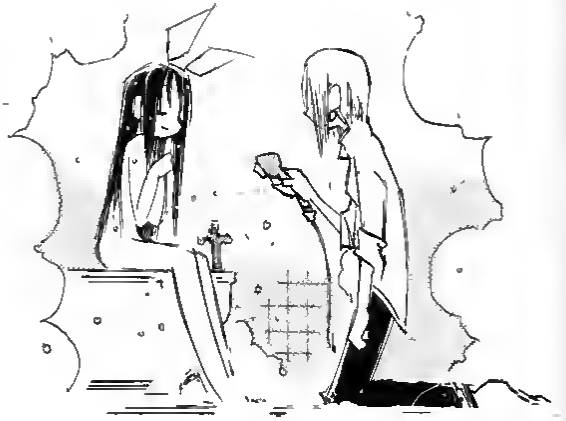
ESPECIALLY THE WAY THEY CAME TO CONFRONT US DIRECTLY
AND THAT SECRET ORGANIZATION IS A WORRY, ISN'T IT?
MY GRANDSON JUST BARELY MISSED THE MARK.
THEY SAY THEY HAVE NO USE FOR THOSE ABOVE 15 YEARS OLD
THE DOLLS' RULES ARE STRICT, AREN'T THEY, SIR?
HE MAY TALK ABOUT HOW BRIGHT THINGS ARE, BUT WHILE HE'S TALKING, THE NUMBER OF SURVIVORS IS DWINDLING.


YOU COME WITH ME A SECOND.

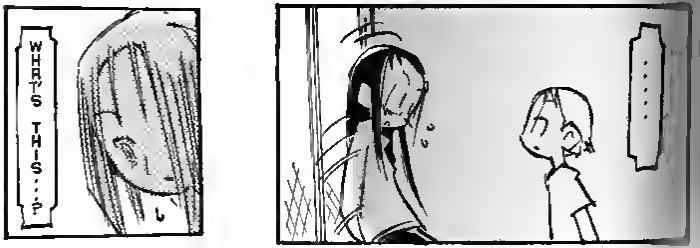

EH? A BATH?



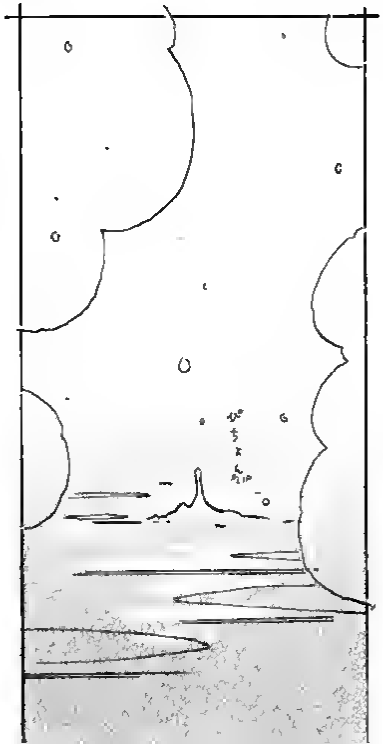
WE'VE GONE THROUGH A LOT OF TRIALS TOGETHER, BUT SINCE THERE IS STILL INVISIVENESS AMONG OTHER COUNTRIES, WE WANT TO LET THEM KNOW THAT OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH THEM.

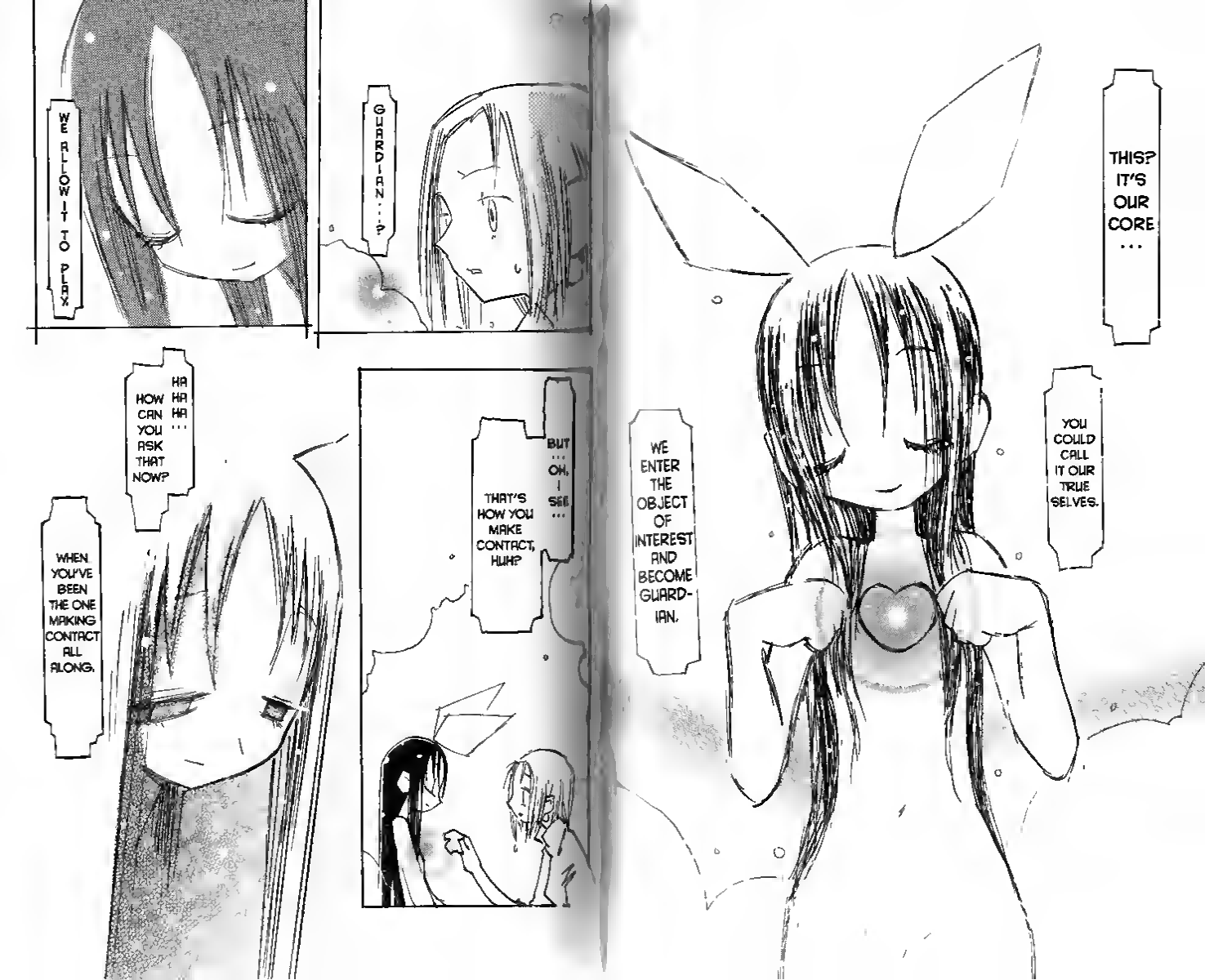


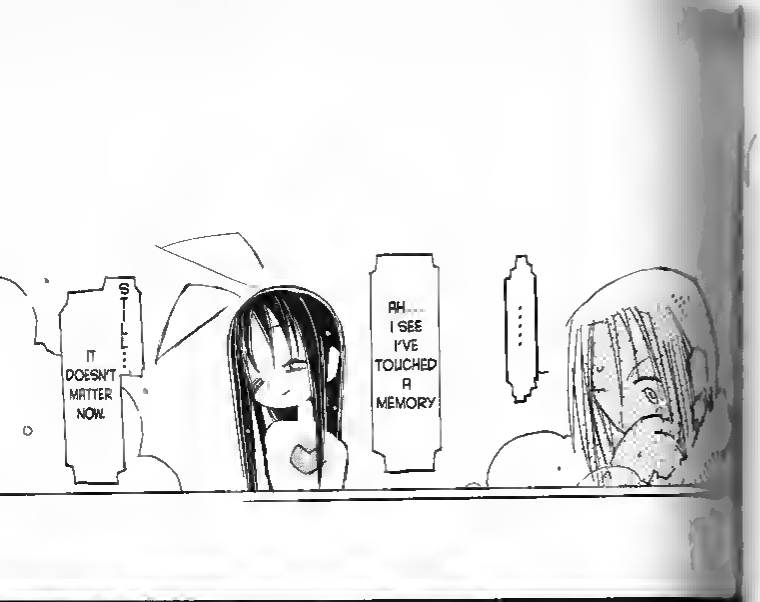
FURIKO CAN COME IN, BUT KIRIO HAS TO STAY OUTSIDE

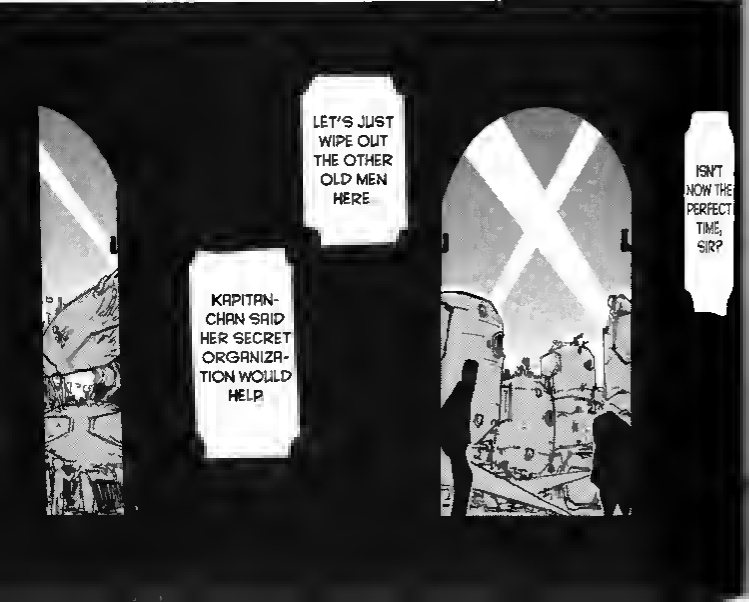

WHAT'S THIS...?
...

WE CAN'T STAND AGAINST HIM.
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT! WE'RE SO AFRRID...
BUT HE'S DOING THINGS FAR MORE FRIGHTENING THAN ANY NORMAL BEAN COUNTER.
WITH MY FRMILY GONE, I HAVE NO USE FOR HIM.



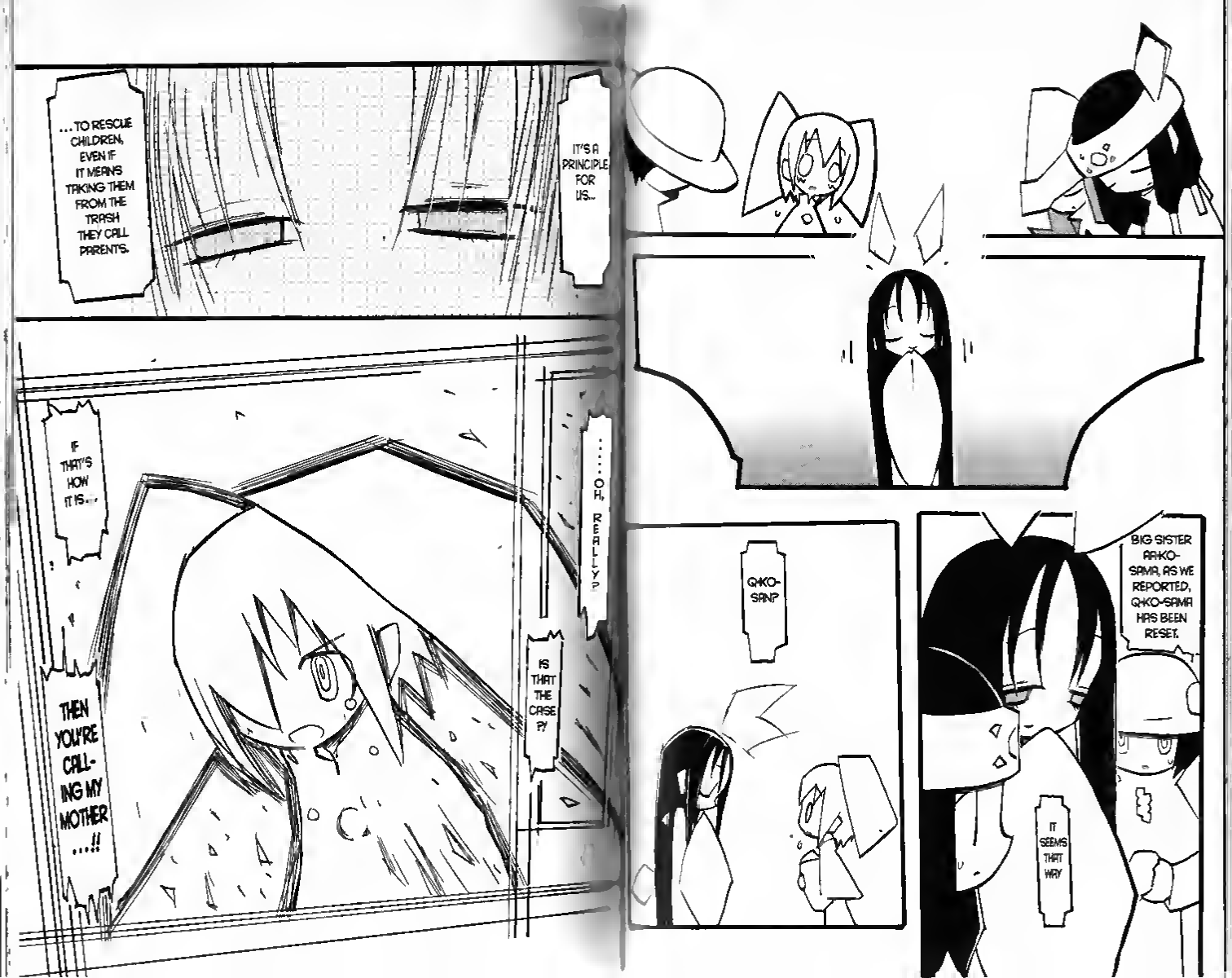

WE ALLOW IT TO PLAY.
GUARDIAN...?
THIS? IT'S OUR CORE...
YOU COULD CALL IT OUR TRUE SELVES.
WE ENTER THE OBJECT OF INTEREST AND BECOME GUARDIAN.
BUT... OH, I SEE...
THAT'S HOW YOU MAKE CONTACT, HUH?
HA HA HA...
HOW CAN YOU ASK THAT NOW?
WHEN YOU'VE BEEN THE ONE MAKING CONTACT ALL ALONG.


STILL...
IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW.
AH... I SEE I'VE TOUCHED A MEMORY
.....

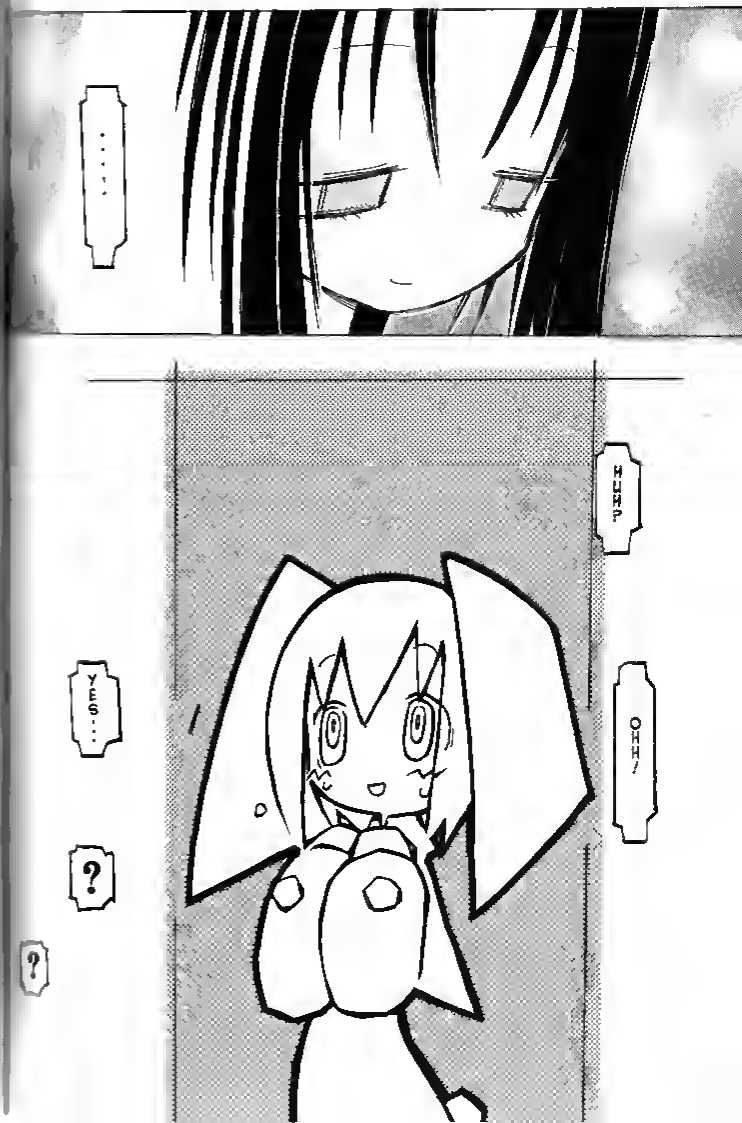

LET'S JUST WIPE OUT THE OTHER OLD MEN HERE
KAPITAN-CHAN SAID HER SECRET ORGANIZA-TION WOULD HELP.
ISN'T NOW THE PERFECT TIME, SIR?

IN THE NOT-SO-DISTANT PAST... ON A CONTINENT WEST OF HERE...
.....EH? WHAT DID YOU SAY...?
THERE WAS A TRAITOR WHO CAME FROM OUR RANKS...
YOU TOOK SOME OF THE ORIGINAL GENES FROM HER

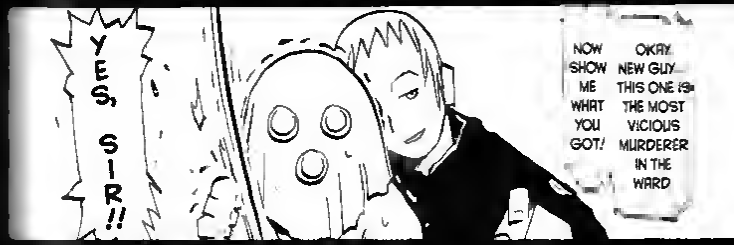
IS EVERY-ONE IN?
THIS IS THE BEST LUCK I'VE EVER HAD.
THEY ALL CAME TOGETHER IN MY HOUSE...
WHAT?!
.....
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WAS TRYING TO KILL US?
SO MOTHER'S WORK WAS TAKING CARE OF THESE FEMALE ROBOTS?
LET'S MAKE SURE THAT THEY DON'T MAKE FOOLS OF US!
LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT. I'M THE ONE WITH THE TROOPS. YOU ARE MY SOLDIER.
AND DON'T GET ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE OLD MEN!
AND DESPITE EVERYTHING ELSE THOSE OLD MEN AND I ARE SOLDIERS OURSELVES. AFTER THIS IS OVER, I'LL LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR YOU TO BECOME LEADER. BUT KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN!

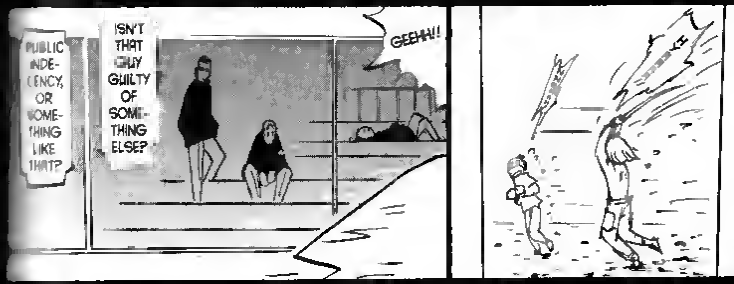

... TO RESCUE CHILDREN, EVEN IF IT MEANS TAKING THEM FROM THE TRASH THEY CALL PARENTS.
IT'S A PRINCIPLE FOR US...
IF THAT'S HOW IT IS...
THEN YOU'RE CALLING MY MOTHER ...!!
IS THAT THE CASE?
.....OH, REALLY?
QHKO-SAN?
IT SEEMS THAT WAY
BIG SISTER AHKO-SAMA, AS WE REPORTED, QHKO-SAMA HAS BEEN RESET.

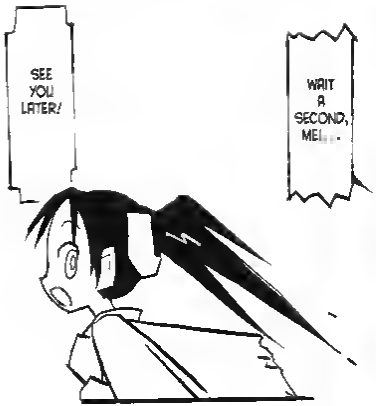
#17



GOOD MORNING!!
IT'S TIME FOR US TO START PLAYING
HMP
TIME TO PLAY
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, THE OLD MEN WILL DESTROY US FOR HAVING OUR HANDS TOO DIRTY
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF THE DIRTY WORK.
. . . THEN THE SUCKING UP TO THE OLD MEN WILL BE OVER.
BUT IF SHE CAN GET FRIENDLY WITH THAT "QUEEN" OF THEIRS . .
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL START OF THE DAY! GREAT WEATHER FOR A MISSION TO ANYWHERE!

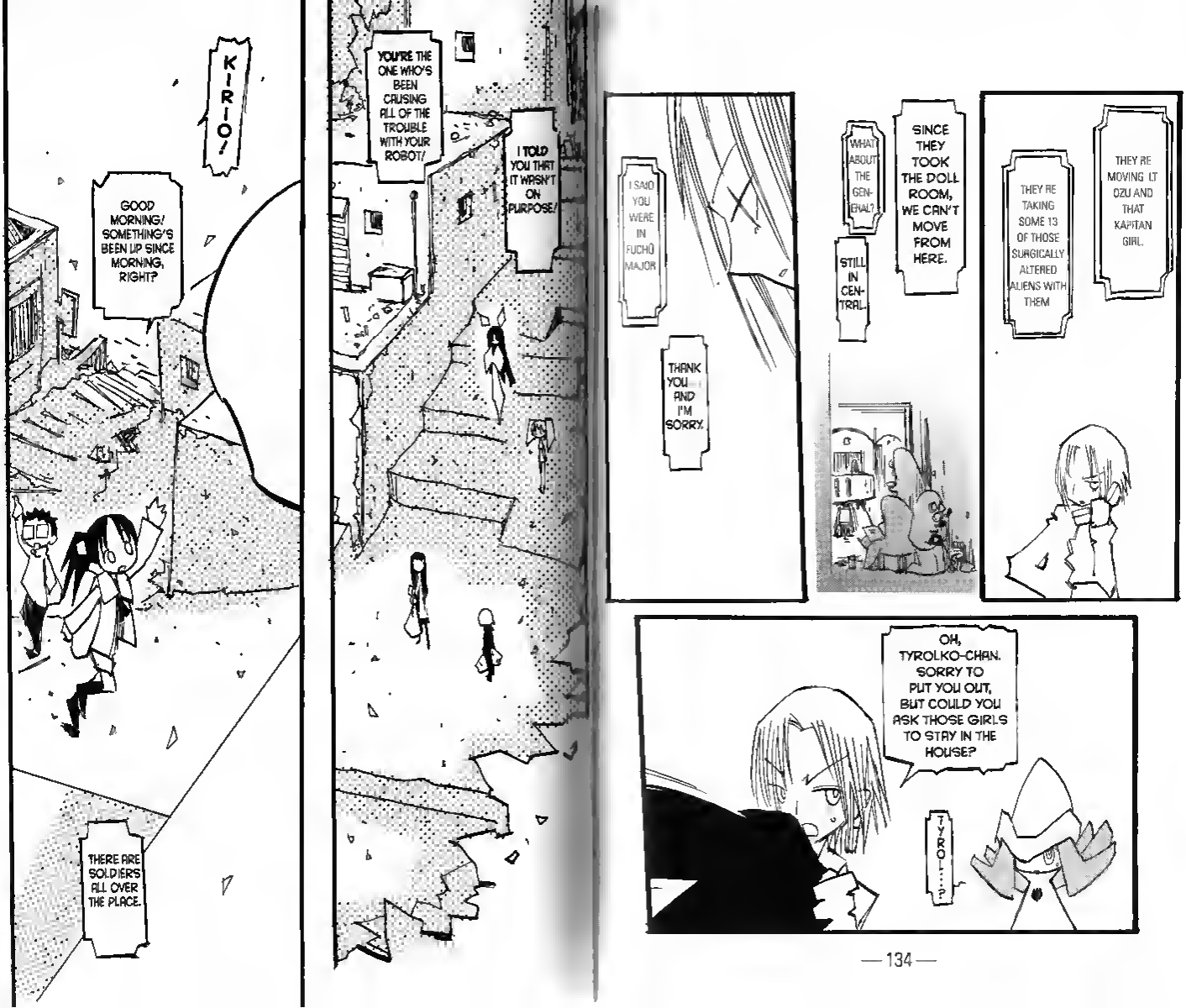

YES, SIR!!
NOW SHOW ME WHAT YOU GOT!
OKAY. NEW GUY... THIS ONE IS THE MOST VICIOUS MURDERER IN THE WARD

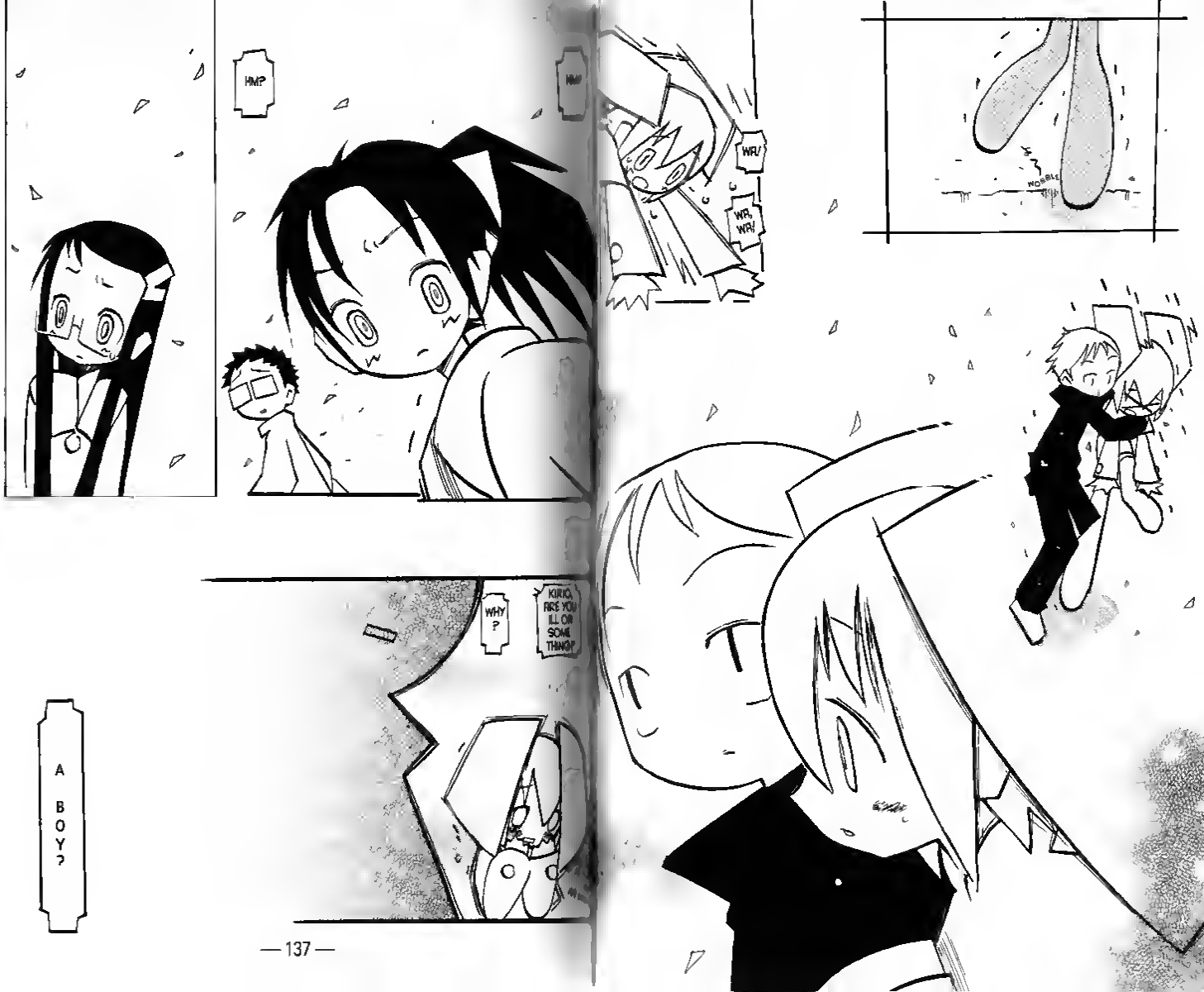

PUBLIC INDECENCY, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
ISN'T THAT GUY GUILTY OF SOMETHING ELSE?
GEEHA!!


SEE YOU LATER!
WAIT A SECOND, ME!...

RUN AWAY? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IF WE LEFT THE SPECIAL WARDS

KAPITAN-CHAN AND HER GROUP MAY THEY'LL TAKE OVER THE SCHOOL. THEN THEY'LL SEARCH OUT THOSE KIDS WHO'VE BEEN TAKEN BY THE DOLLS AND TAKE CARE OF THEM


KIRIO!
GOOD MORNING! SOMETHING'S BEEN UP SINCE MORNING, RIGHT?
THERE ARE SOLDIER'S ALL OVER THE PLACE.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEEN CAUSING ALL OF THE TROUBLE WITH YOUR ROBOT!
I TOLD YOU THAT IT WASN'T ON PURPOSE!
I SAID YOU WERE IN FUCHŪ MAJOR
THANK YOU AND I'M SORRY.
WHAT ABOUT THE GENERAL?
STILL IN CENTRAL.
SINCE THEY TOOK THE DOLL ROOM, WE CAN'T MOVE FROM HERE.
THEY'RE TAKING SOME 13 OF THOSE SURGICALLY ALTERED ALIENS WITH THEM
THEY'RE MOVING IT OZU AND THAT KAPITAN GIRL.
OH, TYROLKO-CHAN. SORRY TO PUT YOU OUT, BUT COULD YOU ASK THOSE GIRLS TO STAY IN THE HOUSE?
TYRO!...?


HM?
HM
WA!
WA, WA!
WOBBLE
WHY?
KURIKA, ARE YOU ILL OR SOME THING?
A BOY?

Q*KO-SAN, ABOUT MOTHER...
DO YOU REMEMBER THE WOMAN WHO MADE US?
NO. I'VE GOT MISSING MEMORIES.
I'M SO WORRIED ABOUT IT!
SHE NEEDN CONCER YOU
THAT WORTHLESS PILE OF CONTRADICTIONS
...?
I SEE. YOU USED "FAMILY" AS AN EXCUSE ANO GOT YOURSELF A BOY.
UM...
COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU.
ANO YOU MADE HIM A PLAYER, Q*KO-SAN...
Q*KO-SAN... YES.
YOU BE SURE NOT TO WANDER TOO FAR FROM KIRIO-SAN
OUR YOUNGER SISTERS NEARBY ARE GATHERING.

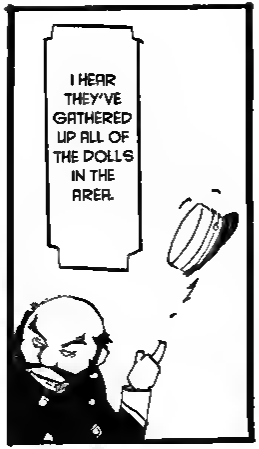
I'M GOING TO CHECK ON MY PLAYER!
DISOBEYING ORDERS?
THOSE ARE STRANGE COMPANIONS.
WHAT ARE ALL THOSE THINGS THAT JUST CAME OUT AFTER US?
GRRRRNNN
I'VE NEVER CLIMBED
AH!
CAN A GUY HEAR SKIRTS RUSTLING FROM UP IN THE SKY?
GRRSSH
DON'T TAKE SIDE TRIPS!
BIG SISTER A-KO-SAMA WANTS THIS DONE SWIFTLY!
YOU SHOWED EXTRA KINDNESS TO BIG SISTER C*KO-SAMA
C*KO-SAN IS UNUSUAL WHEN WITH THAT BOY
THEY'VE GONE BEYOND OUR ORIGINAL DUTIES.
SO THAT THEIR BACKS WILL BE TO US.
I'LL HAVE THEM GO BEFORE US AS A GROUP

AH!
MAN, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE!
RIKKO-CHAN ISN'T ANYWHERE AROUND?

EH?!
AGAIN?
WAH! IT'S COMING THIS WAY!
FUMIKO-SAN!
TSUN
UM...
IF YOU'D LIKE...

GRUNCH
!! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
KI-RI-O...?!
GRINCH
AGAIN?!
THAT WAS CLOSE!

LET'S GATHER ALL OF THE NUISANCES TOGETHER AND MAKE THEM GO AWAY.
DON'T YOU LEAVE!


I HEAR THEY'VE GATHERED UP ALL OF THE DOLLS IN THE AREA.

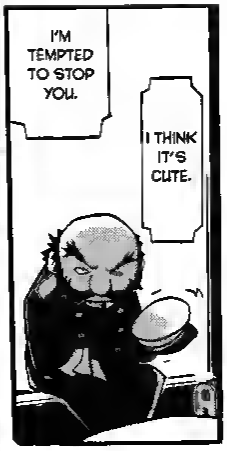
I DON'T LIKE THE FAKES AND SUCK-UPS.

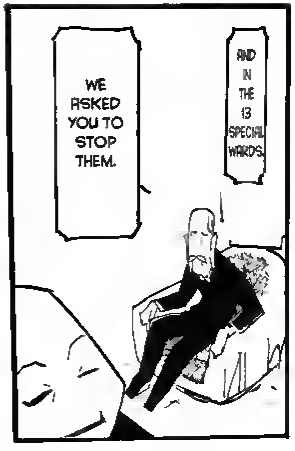
KACHAK

I HEAR THAT YOUR MINIONS ARE FIRING OFF SOME SECRET FIREWORKS.
ANOTHER ACTION TO PUT A SMILE ON THE FACES OF HER AND HER CREW?

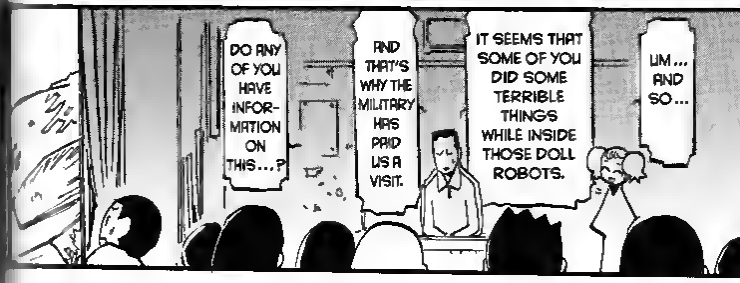
OH, HER? I SENT HER TO AMERICA YESTERDAY.
WE CAN'T ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE AMOI WOMAN.

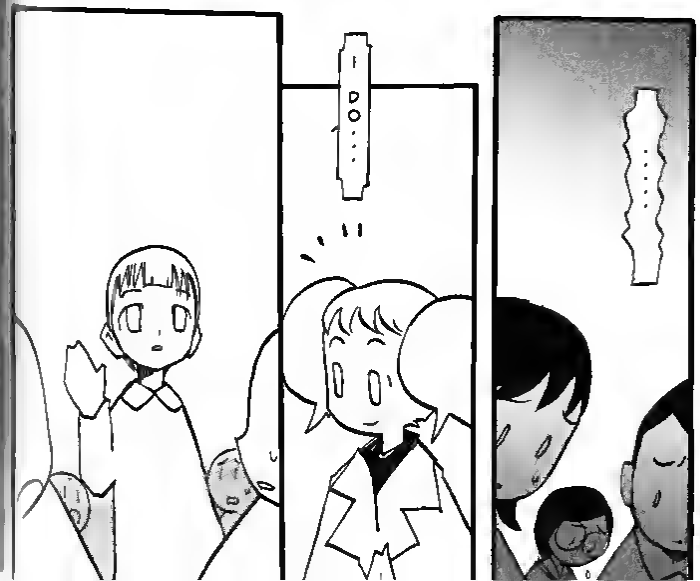
THIS CONVERSATION IS BORING.

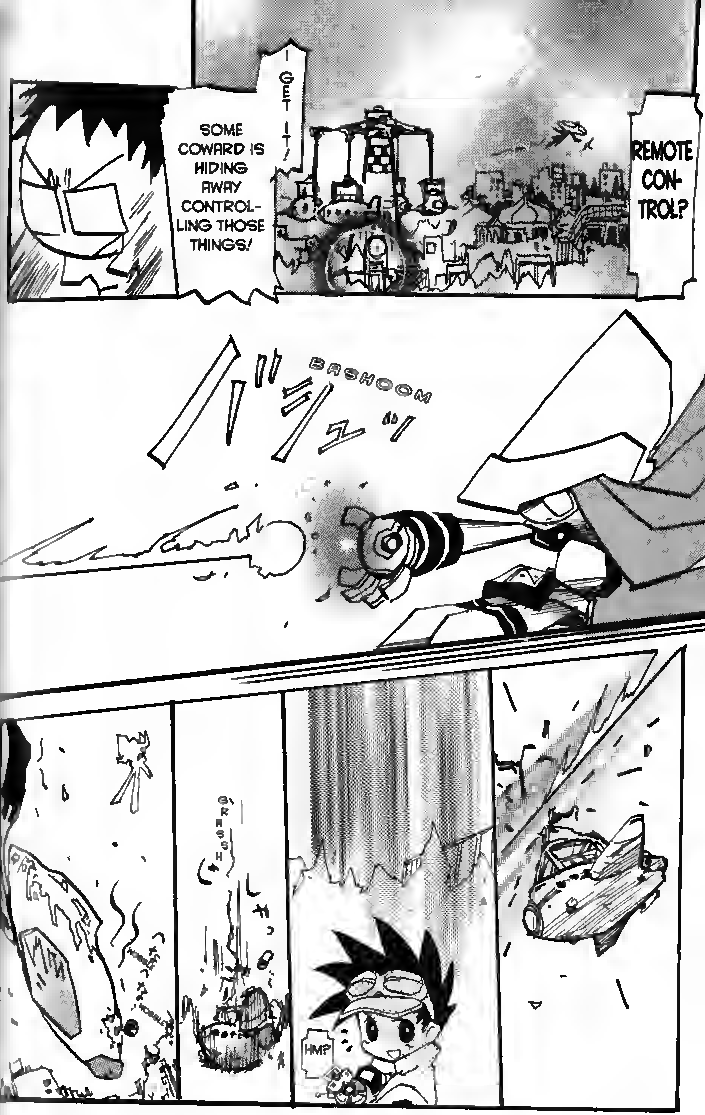

I'M TEMPTED TO STOP YOU.
I THINK IT'S CUTE.

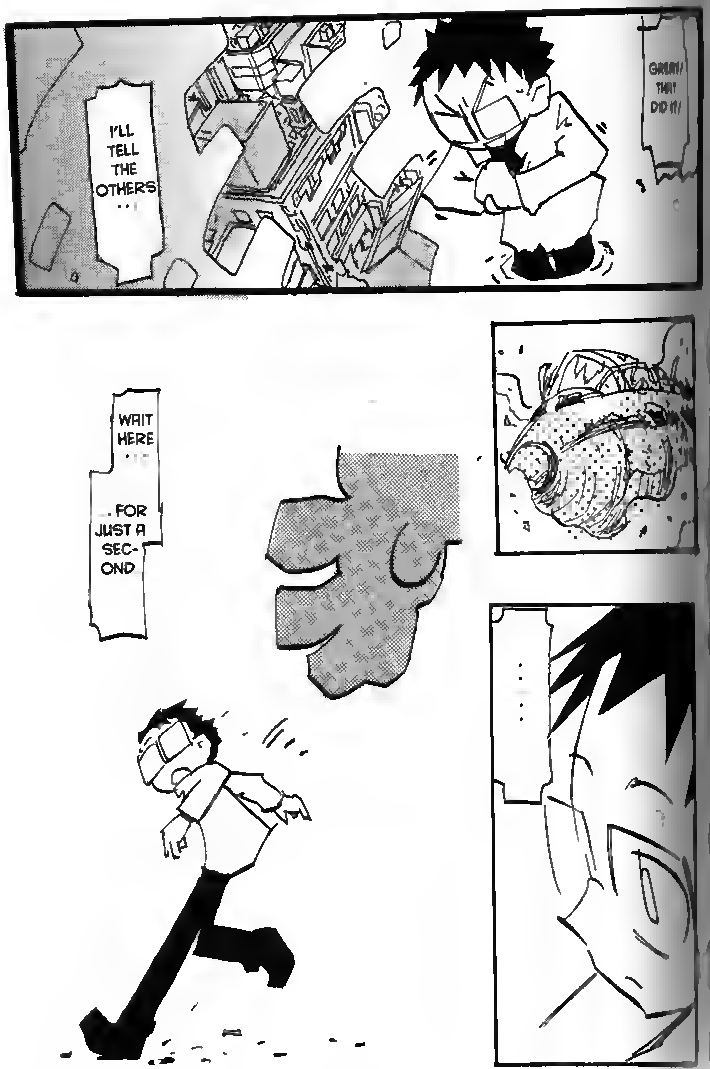

WE ASKED YOU TO STOP THEM.
AND IN THE 13 SPECIAL WARDS.

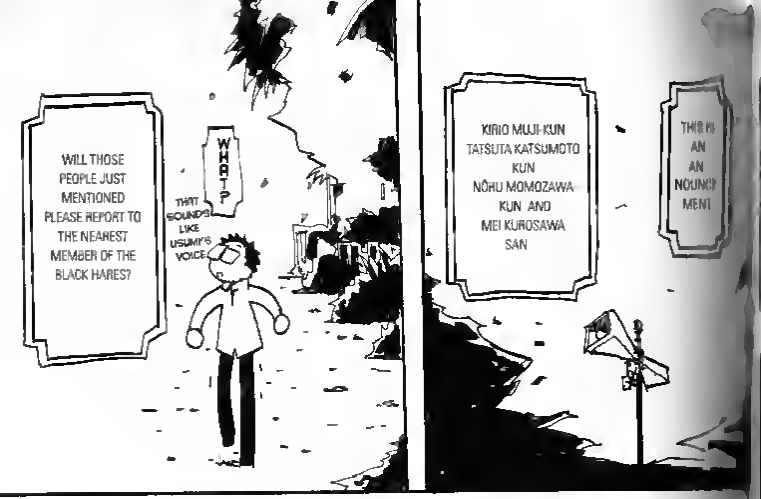
#18


DO ANY OF YOU HAVE INFOR-MATION ON THIS...?
AND THAT'S WHY THE MILITARY HAS PAID US A VISIT.
IT SEEMS THAT SOME OF YOU DID SOME TERRIBLE THINGS WHILE INSIDE THOSE DOLL ROBOTS.
UM... AND SO...


I DO...
.....

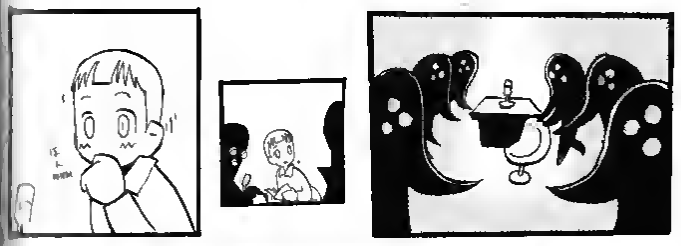

GET IT!
SOME COWARD IS HIDING AWAY CONTROLLING THOSE THINGS!
REMOTE CONTROL?
BASHOOM
HMF

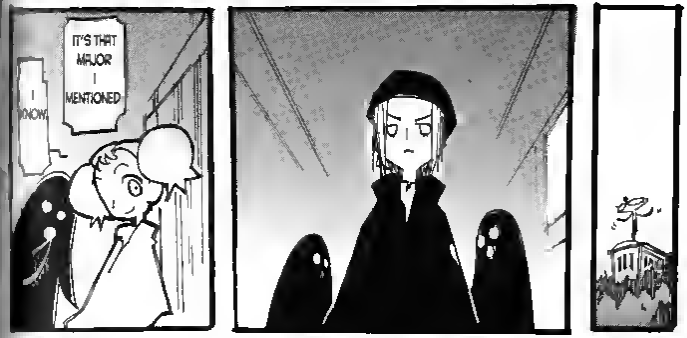

I'LL TELL THE OTHERS...
GASH!/ THAT DID IT!/
WAIT HERE...
...FOR JUST A SECOND
...


WILL THOSE PEOPLE JUST MENTIONED PLEASE REPORT TO THE NEAREST MEMBER OF THE BLACK HARES?
WHAT-?
THAT SOUNDS LIKE USUMI'S VOICE.
KIRIO MUJI-KUN TATSUTA KATSUMOTO KUN NOHU MOMOZAWA KUN AND MEI KUROSAWA SAN
THERE AN AN NOUNCE MENT

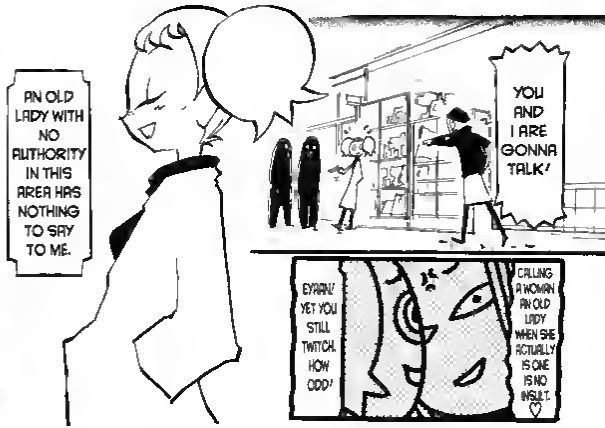
WE'LL HAVE TO CHOOSE AN-OTHER
YES. ONE OF THE "CHOSEN CHILDREN" HAS BEEN CRUSHED.

THAT BROAD-CAST... I WAS ONE OF THOSE CALLED...
UM.. EXCUSE ME..


IS IT HIM


I KNOW.
IT'S THAT MAJOR I MENTIONED

ぽんぽん
POKING
ぽんぽん
PINKING


AN OLD LADY WITH NO AUTHORITY IN THIS AREA HAS NOTHING TO SAY TO ME.
YOU AND I ARE GONNA TALK!
EYAH! YET YOU STILL TWITCH. HOW ODD!
CALLING A WOMAN AN OLD LADY WHEN SHE ACTUALLY IS ONE IS NO INSULT. ♡

YOU'RE KIDDING!!
KACHAK
GOOD, NOW DON'T MOVE...
OR MAYBE KATSUMOTO-KUN?
ARE YOU MUJI-KUN?
OH, ARE YOU?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, TATSUYA?!
GWOOHH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HUFF HUFF

FURIKO!!
HE WENT IN THERE!!
WHO CALLED IN THE LOCAL AIR DEFENSE FORCE?
THE DOLLS ARE GROUPING TOGETHER IN THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE
MAJOR YOU'RE HERE? WHY?
IS THAT YOU GENERAL?
WHARRT?
JUST THREE?
THREE
HOW MANY?
I'M GOING TO THREATEN THEM USING THE AMERICAN CODES. I NEED SUPPORT
HE...
JUST...
MURDERED SOME PEOPLE!
AKA!! DO YOU READ?!

THOSE WE HAVE INSIDE OUR CHESTS ARE BROTHER AND SISTER! WHY MUST THEY FIGHT?!
WHAT ELSE?
ALL WE'RE DOING IS ALLOWING THE PLAYERS TO PLAY AS THEY WISH.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS, HAVEN'T YOU, Q-KO-SAN? YOU'VE ALWAYS DOUBTED! YOU'VE ALWAYS ASKED WHY!
THAT'S WHY YOU'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO SUCCEED AT ANYTHING!
PLEASE TELL ME WHY ?!
WHY
THIS ISN'T RIGHT!
WAIT, BIG SISTER AA-KO-SAMA!

HE'LL PROTECT FURIKO...!
KIRIO IS A STRONG, STOUT CHILD...
HE'LL BE FINE.
EVERYTHING'S FINE.
ARE YOU SURE WE SHOULDN'T BE GETTING OUT OF HERE?
?!
OPEN UP!
EH?!
DOESN'T THAT WORRY YOU AT ALL?
WASN'T THAT YOUR SON, KIRIO-KUN, WHO WAS CALLED JUST NOW?
YOU'RE A MOTHER, AREN'T YOU?
HAVE YOU EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THIS?
I WONDER WHY YOU'RE TAKING THOSE WRETCHED CREATURES AND TRYING TO TURN THEM INTO CUTE TOYS.
I DOUBT YOU'RE AWARE THAT YOU'RE COMMITTING EVIL ACTS, BUT...

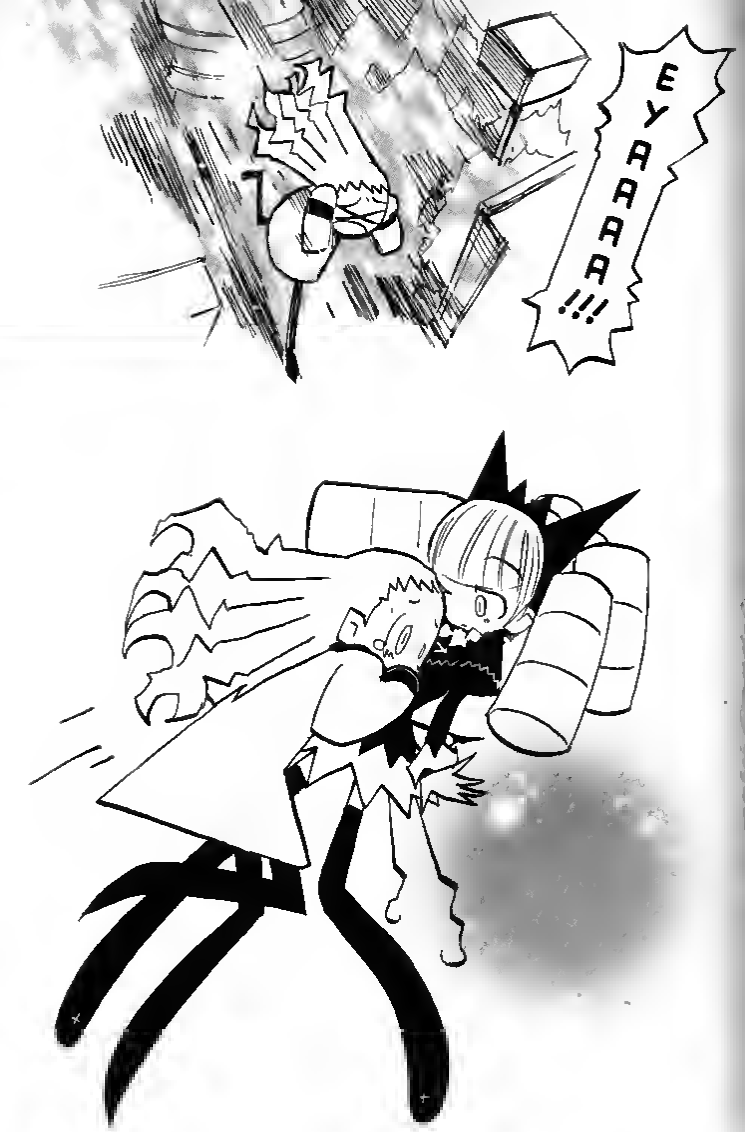
GAWOOM
I'M SORRY!
I'M
WHY DID YOU OPEN UP?
LOOK, FURIKO! I BEAT YOU IN A TEST OF STRENGTH!
FURIKO IS REALLY STRONG!
DAMN IT!
COME HERE
SHIINO...

IT'S ALL RIGHT. EVERY-THING'S ALL RIGHT.
YEAH.. MY BIG BROTH-ER'S HERE.

I'VE ALWAYS HATED HIM!!
ALWAYS...
HE'S WHY MOTHER STAYS AT WORK NEVER WOR-RYING ABOUT ME!
IT'S ALL BE-CAUSE HE EXISTS!
WAS ME!
PUSHED MOTHER OUT OF THE HOUSE
THE ONE WHO
GOD, I HATE YOU!!
I HATE YOU TOO !!
THE SAME GOES FOR ME!

GET OUTTA MY LIFE!!
AAAAAHH!

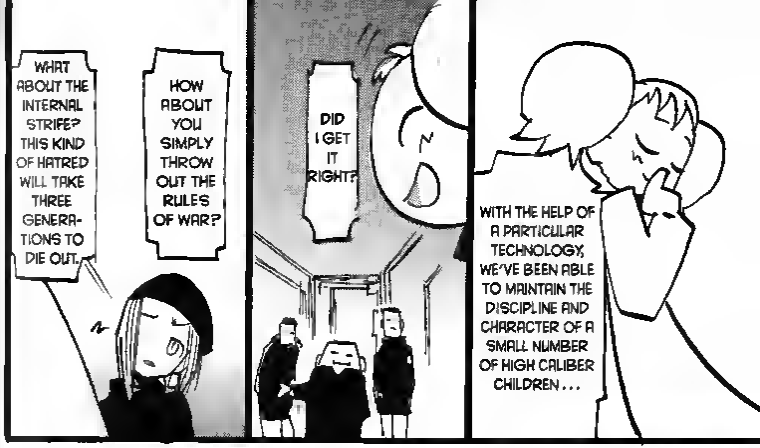
#19

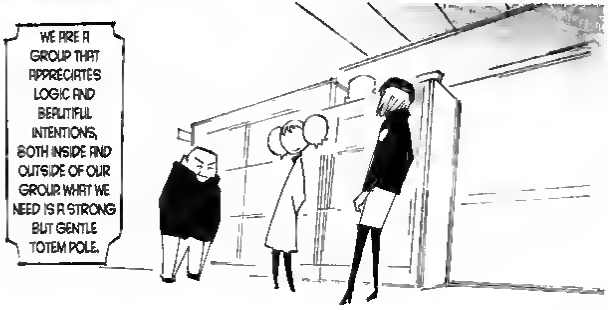


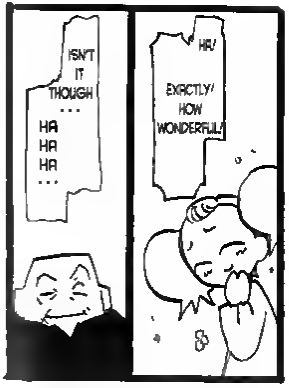
PET HIM... SHIINO...

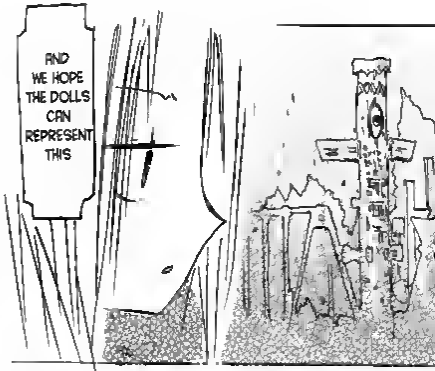
LOOK HOW... LUST LOOK HOW...

HA HEE HEE HEE!
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, GENERAL...
LOOK AT WHAT THE CHILDREN ARE DOING WITH THEIR NEW TOYS.
BUT THAT'S JUST LIKE...
REALLY...?
HO HO HO HO HO!
HA HA HA HA!
ほほほへへほほほはは
はははははははは
はははははは
はははは
はは
は


WHAT ABOUT THE INTERNAL STRIFE? THIS KIND OF HATRED WILL TAKE THREE GENERATIONS TO DIE OUT.
HOW ABOUT YOU SIMPLY THROW OUT THE RULES OF WAR?
DID I GET IT RIGHT?
WITH THE HELP OF A PARTICULAR TECHNOLOGY, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE DISCIPLINE AND CHARACTER OF A SMALL NUMBER OF HIGH CALIBER CHILDREN...

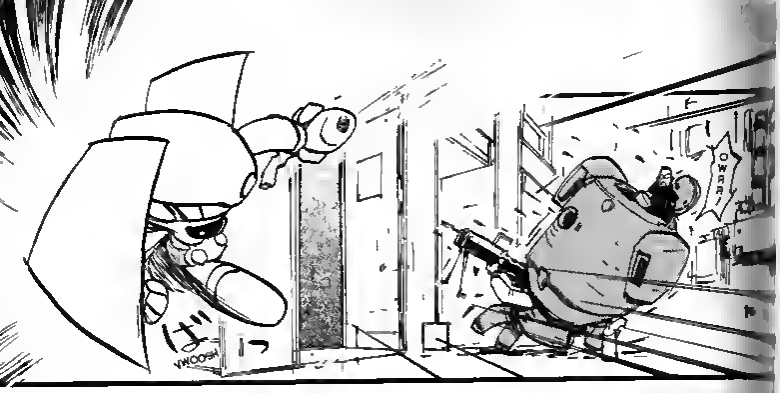

WE ARE A GROUP THAT APPRECIATES LOGIC AND BEAUTIFUL INTENTIONS, BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF OUR GROUP. WHAT WE NEED IS A STRONG BUT GENTLE TOTEM POLE.


ISN'T IT THOUGH... HA HA HA...
HA! EXACTLY! HOW WONDERFUL!

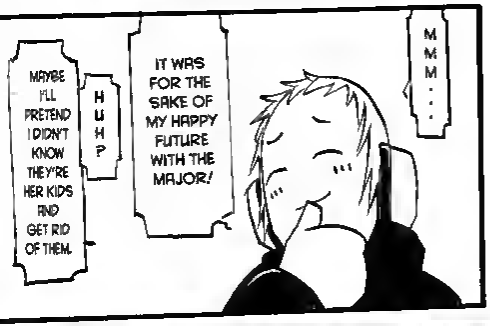

AND WE HOPE THE DOLLS CAN REPRESENT THIS

FORGIVE ME FOR INTERRUPTING YOUR PLAY ING SISTER AA•KO-SAMA
HE ALWAYS DOES THAT
HE HIDES, THEN ATTACKS FROM BEHIND
YOU'RE TRYING TO HIDE?
HEH? YOU'RE TRYING TO RUN?
WE COULD ELIMINATE THE ENTIRE REGION
WE HAVE TO GET A HOLD OF HIM FIRST!
YOU HAVE NO USE FOR THIS TOWN ANYMORE, CORRECT?
EH?
EH?
WHAT' LL WE DO?
WE AWAIT YOUR COM MAND
WE RE IN THE PROCESS OF CAPTUR ING THAT VEHICLE AND ITS BOMBS

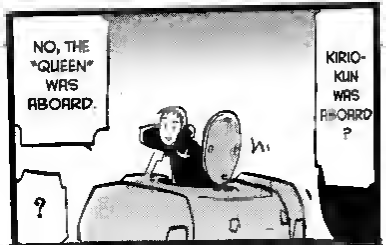
YOUR SISTER'S BECOME A PROBLEM.
YO!
I SEE
SS•KO SEE AFTER YOUR PLAYER THOSE SISTERS WHO HAVE NO PLAYER AS WELL AS THE BLACK SERIES ASSIST THOSE WHO DO
YES, MASTER
YOU CAN'T !!
NO!
NO...
IT'D HAVE BEEN NICE IF SHE'D SEEN THAT FURNACE, HUH?
IT WOULD'VE SURPRISED HER TO SEE THOSE ASHES AND BONES
THEY USED TO BURN THEM HERE. THEY'D BURN THOSE PARASITIC OLD MEN DAY AFTER DAY.
YOU CAN STILL SMELL IT, CAN'T YOU?
STRAIN
SHE ISN'T COMING....

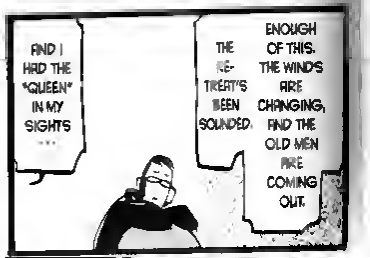

VHOOSH
TOWARD

THEY'RE PRETTY QUICK.
CAN YOU SHOOT AT CHIL-DREN?!
YOU'RE A ROTTEN SHOT!

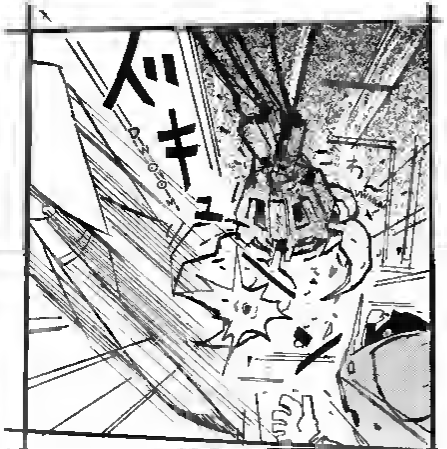

MAYBE I'LL PRETEND I DIDN'T KNOW THEY'RE HER KIDS AND GET RID OF THEM.
HUH?
IT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF MY HAPPY FUTURE WITH THE MAJOR!
MMM...

YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT SINCE YOU KNEW HIM?
I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED THAT FROM THE MAJOR'S KID

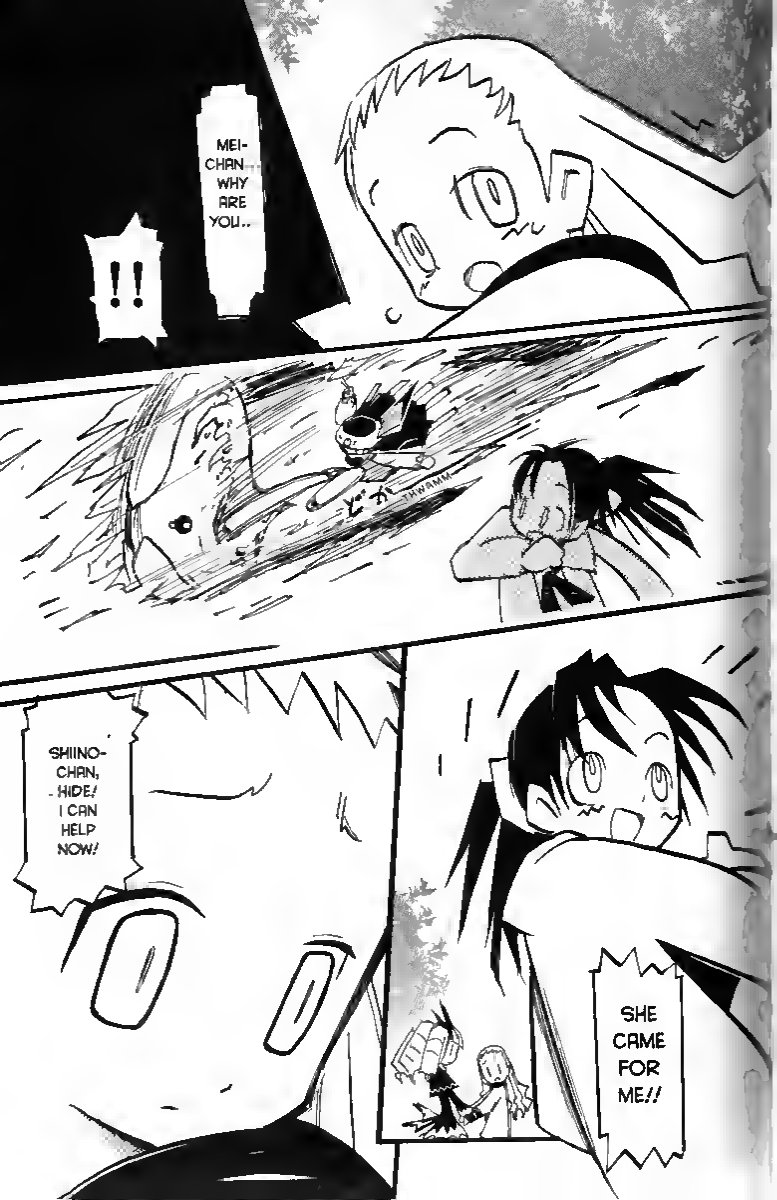

NO, THE "QUEEN" WAS ABOARD.
KIRIO-KUN WAS ABOARD?
?


AND I HAD THE "QUEEN" IN MY SIGHTS...
THE RE-TREAT'S BEEN SOUNDED.
ENOUGH OF THIS. THE WIND'S ARE CHANGING, AND THE OLD MEN ARE COMING OUT.

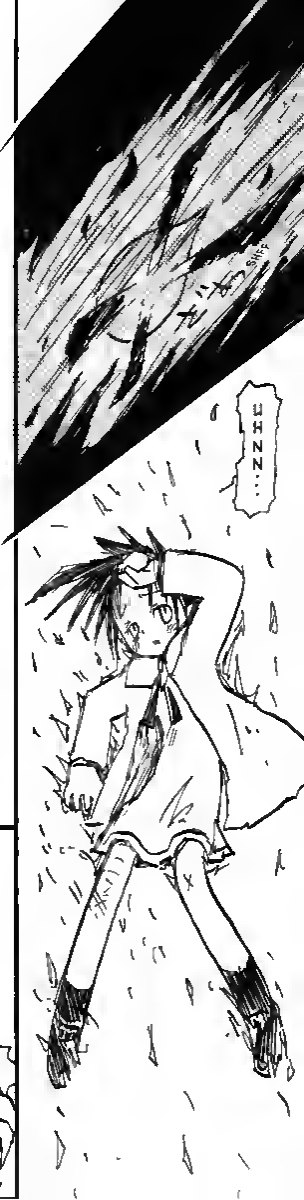
SHE MAKES ME MAD!
YOU SAY THAT SO EASILY
FURIKO IS THE ONE INSIDE HER CHEST. IF WE TOOK OUT FURIKO, THAT'D END IT, RIGHT?
BIG SISTER AA•KO SAMA IS THE ORIGINAL OF ALL OF US SISTERS THE WORK PUT INTO HER IS AN ORDER OF MAGNITUDE DIFFERENT FROM US
WHY CAN'T WE BEAT HER?
BUT EVEN SO, IT WAS ALL FOR THE FUTURE OF YOU CHILDREN. ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?


ドキュ

HE HAD THIS DREAM FOR THE CHILDREN...
IF YOU CAME AND TALK-ED TO HIM...
OUR BOSS IS IN DESPAIR AND IS PRETTY DANGER-OUS.

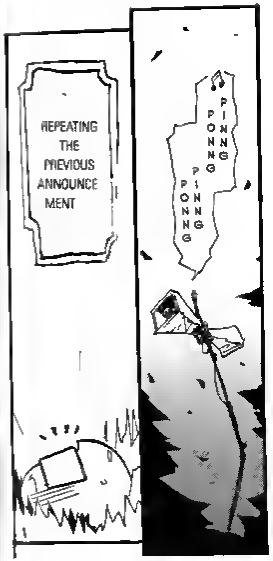

MEI-CHAN... WHY ARE YOU..
!!
ドガ
THWAMM
SHIINO-CHAN, HIDE! I CAN HELP NOW!
SHE CAME FOR ME!!

AH! WHAT?
WHERE'S KIRIO AND EVERY-BODY?
A!
SHIINO-CHAN!


SHIP
UHNN...

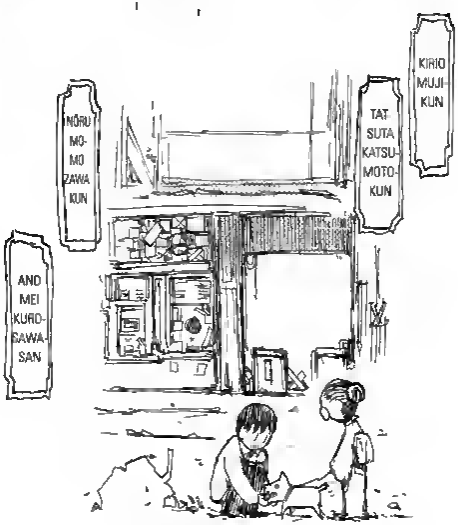
I'M PRETTY SURE IT'S HIM.
THAT WASN'T VERY SOPHISTI-CATED
KLUNG!
HEEEY! WAIT FOR ME!
WHY ARE YOU TAKING HIM ON?
KIRIO-KUUUN/ IT ISN'T MANLY TO HIDE INSIDE A GIRL/

EVERYONE IS WORRIED ABOUT YOU
THIS VOICE IS...
RSSH
...EH...?

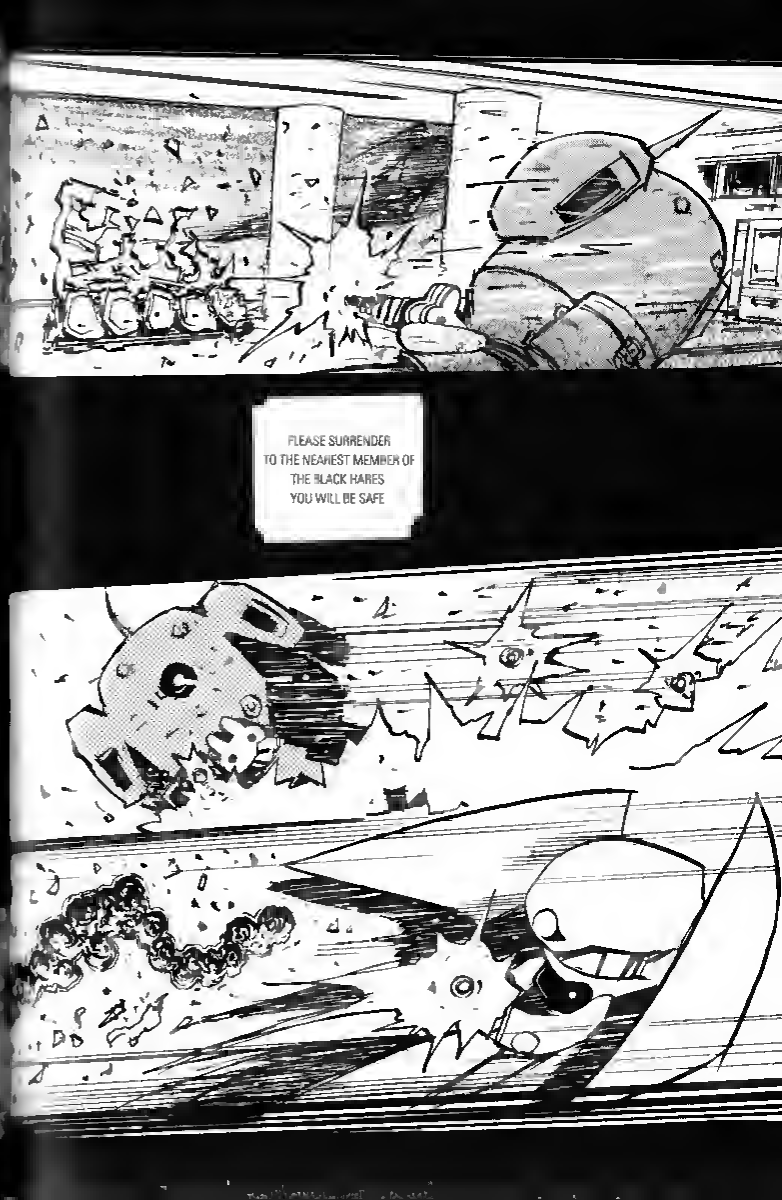

REPEATING THE PREVIOUS ANNOUNCE MENT
PONNG PINNG PONNG PINNG

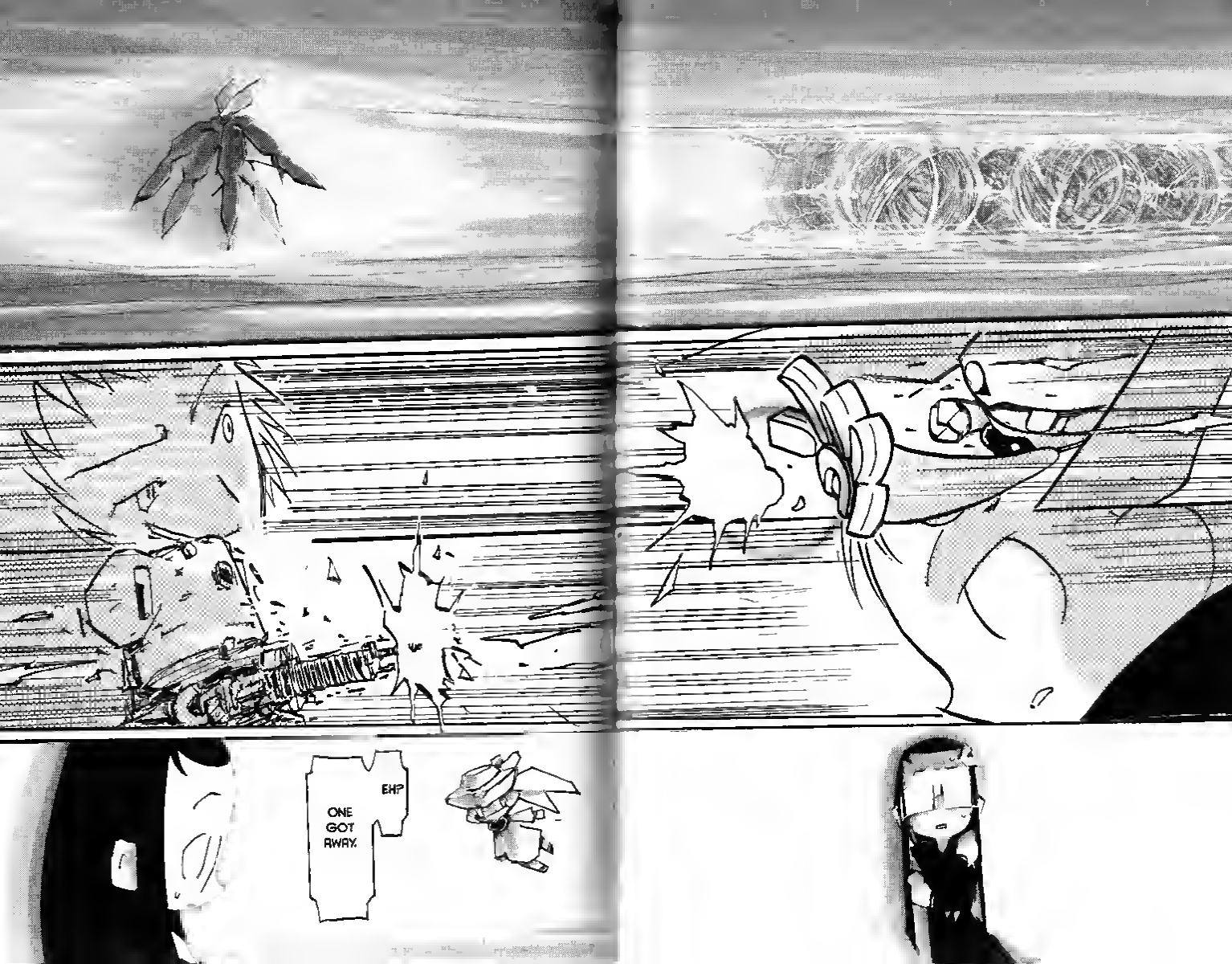
...MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DO KENDO ANY-MORE...
!

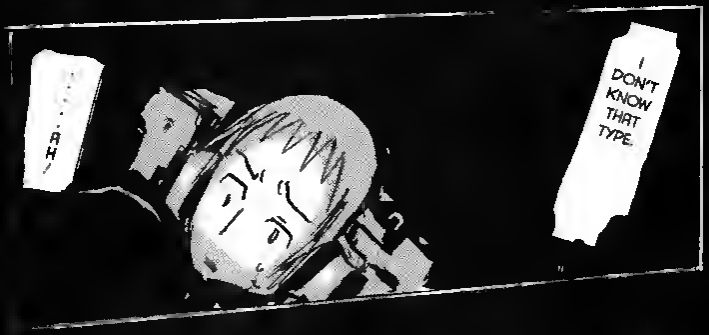
OH NO!
THE SCREEN


KIRIO MUJI-KUN
TAT SUTA KATSU-MOTO-KUN
NÔRU MO-MO ZAWA KUN
AND MEI KURO-SAWA-SAN

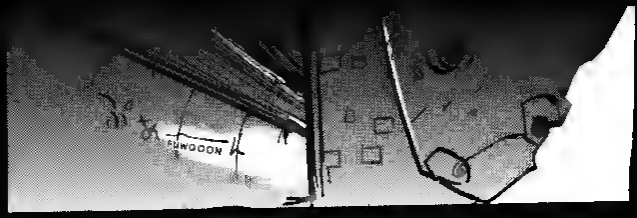
PLEASE STOP USING
YOUR ALIEN ROBOTS FOR
EVIL PURPOSES

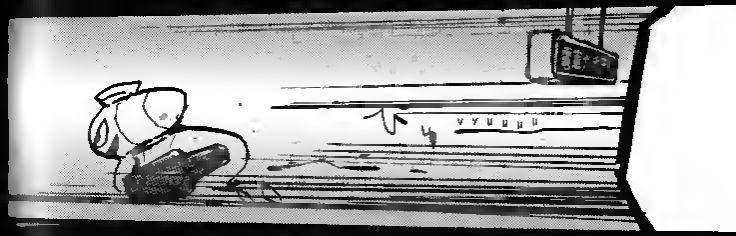

PLEASE SURRENDER
TO THE NEAREST MEMBER OF
THE BLACK HARES
YOU WILL BE SAFE

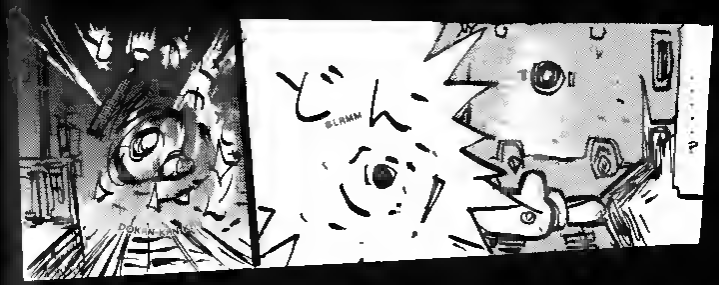

EH?
ONE GOT AWAY.


I DON'T KNOW THAT TYPE.

RUN AWAY !!!

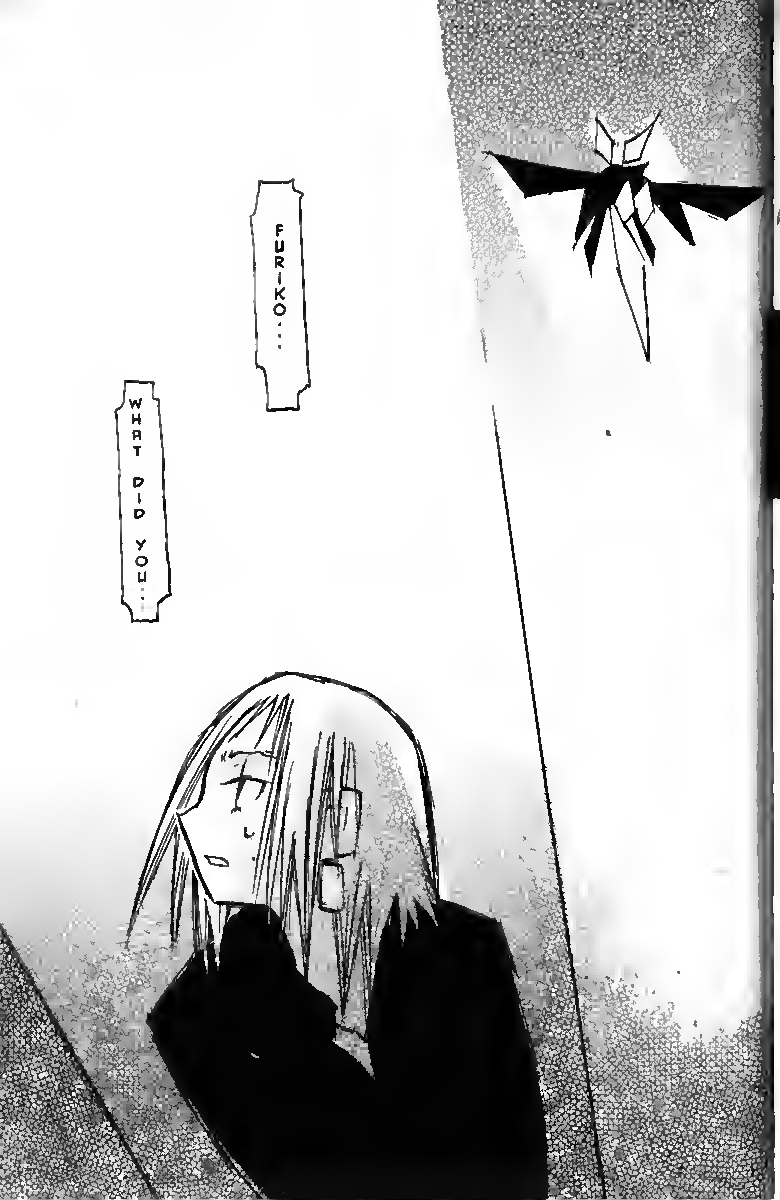

FUWOOON


VYUUUUU

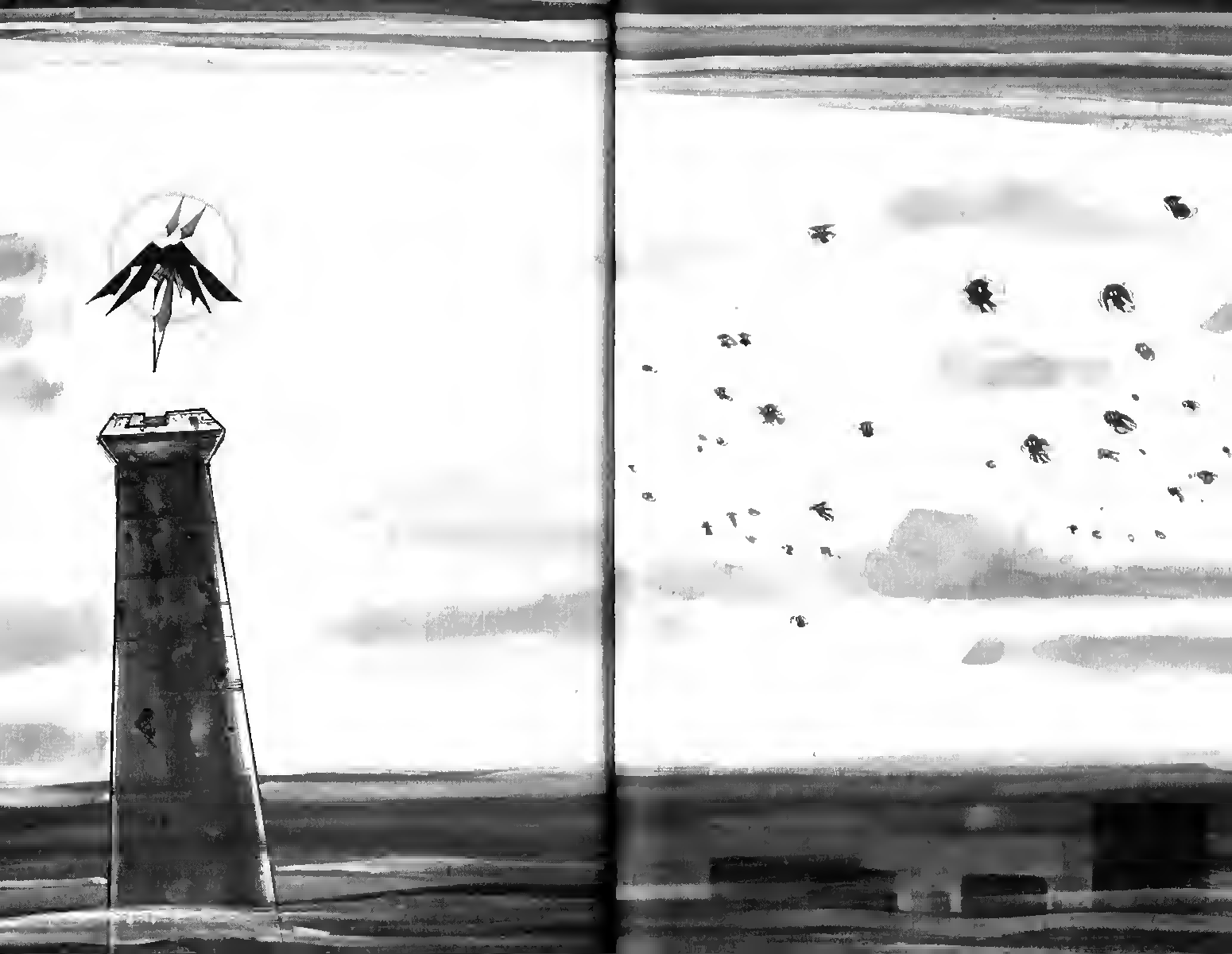

どん
B.RMM

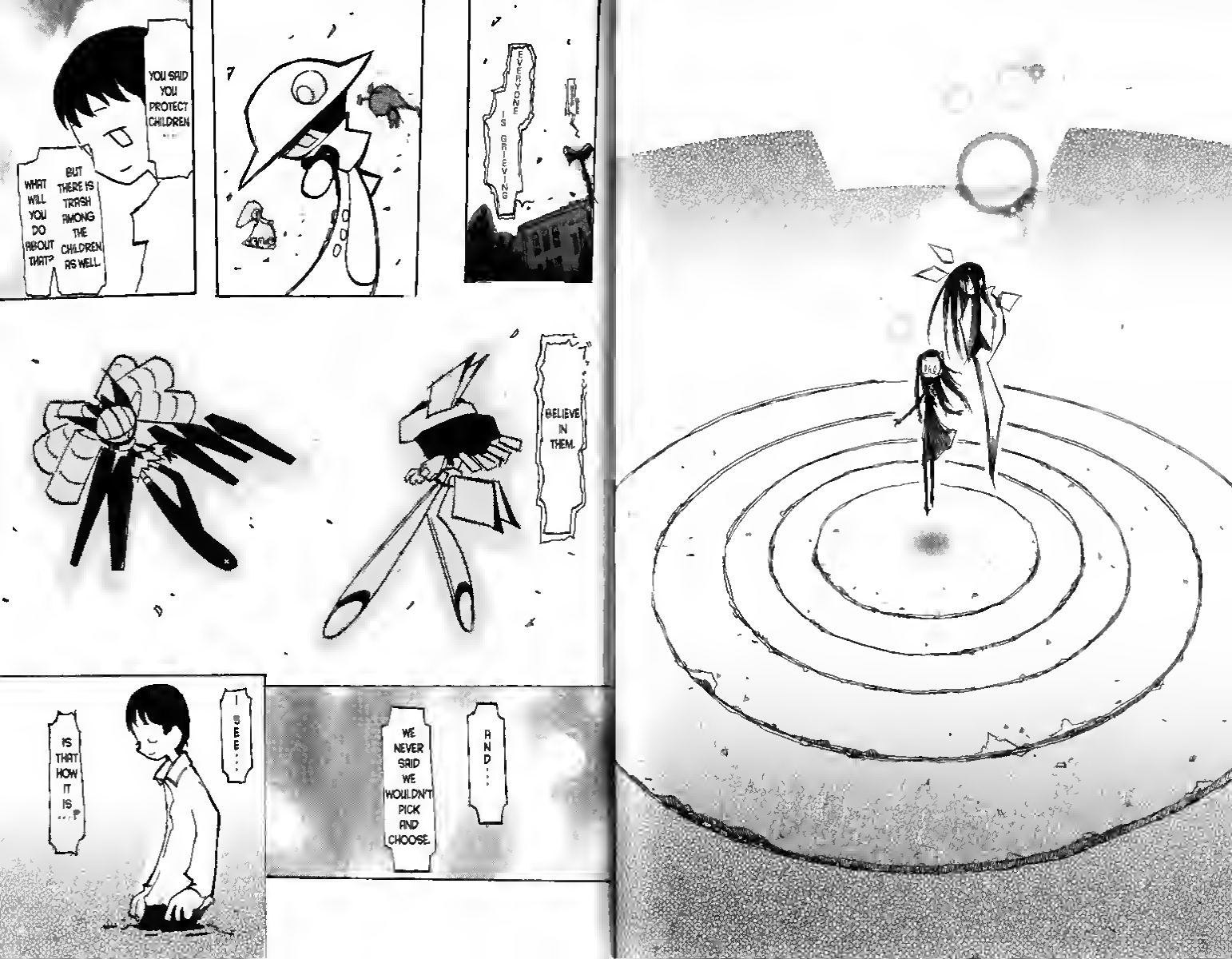
WOOOM
?!!
GENERAL, YOU SEEMED PRETTY SURE YOU WERE SAFE...
...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WE CAN'T DEPEND ON THOSE DOLLS.
I'M A DEAD MAN...
!!
TRYING TO SURVIVE THROUGH PERSONAL FAVOR'S ISN'T A PRETTY WAY TO LIVE. LET'S ALL FIGHT FAIR, OKAY?
BLAMM
RUN! MAJOR!
MAJOR!
THIS WAY!

KAPITAN-CHAN TOOK THE GENERAL OUT OF THE PICTURE. LET'S RETREAT
MAYBE HE WENT TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH.
WHAT ABOUT KIRIO-KUN?
.....WHO KNOWS
MAYBE HE WENT TO BE WITH THE QUEEN


FURIKO...
WHAT DID YOU...

MAJOR, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE...
FOR A LITTLE WHILE, I'D LIKE TO.. AH!




YOU SAID YOU PROTECT CHILDREN
BUT THERE IS TRASH AMONG THE CHILDREN AS WELL.
WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT THAT?
EVERYONE IS GRIEVING
BELIEVE IN THEM.
WE NEVER SAID WE WOULDN'T PICK AND CHOOSE.
AND...
I...
IS THAT HOW IT IS...?

IF YOU COME IN NOW YOU CAN STILL BE FORGIVEN!

DAMMIT!
DAMMIT!
THAT BOY-

About the Author

Ueda Hajime

1. Your favorite thing — *Escape*

2. Your least favorite thing — *The opposite of escape*

3. Your birthdate or star-sign — *Taurus*

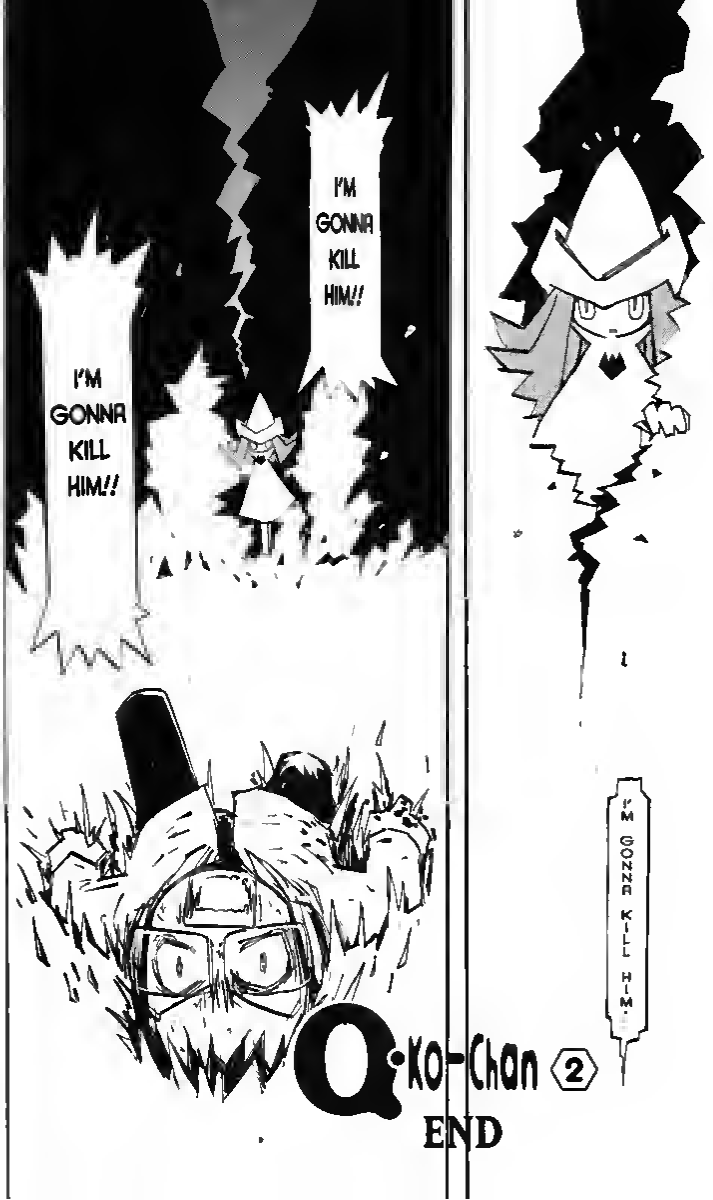
4. What is your hobby? — *Escape*

5. People you respect — *Those who do the opposite of escape*

6. Animals you like — *Animals other than monkeys*

7. Favorite anime or movie — *JFK*

8. How would you describe yourself? — *A Dorowa Zan–class spaceship entering the next world when Gondo Rowa exploded in Ideon: Be Invoked*



Translation Notes

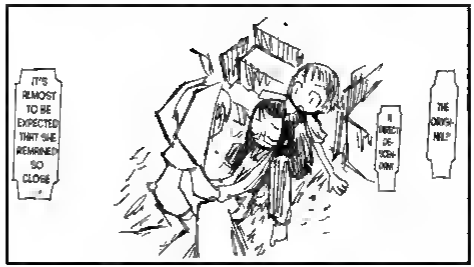
Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Tadaima, Page 18

There are many set phrases in Japanese that are used daily. When someone comes back to a place one belongs (usually their home, but it can also be one's workplace or commonly frequented restaurant, etc.), one says "*Tadaima!*" The word literally means "just now" but would be translated as "I'm home." It is usually followed by someone who is already home saying "*Okaerinasai,*" which means "Welcome home."

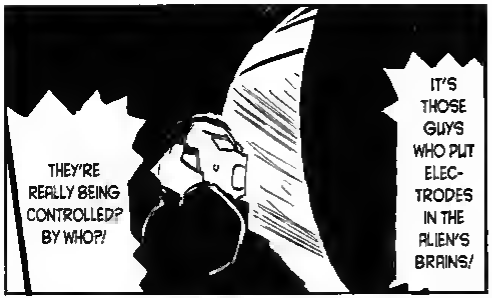
Q-ko-chan, Page 19

Spiral Curlko-chan's name in Japanese is *Tate-roll-ko-chan*. A *tate-roll* is hair that has been curled around a long roller to create the kind of hairstyle worn by VV·ko-chan. As mentioned in the notes for Volume 1, *Maru-bôshi* means "round hat", Tyrol (*Chiroru* in Japanese transliteration) probably refers to a place in northern Italy, and Native-Americanko-chan is the English phrase put into *katakana*. All of these are descriptive names of the robots followed by *-ko-chan* to indicate that they look like young girls.



Big Sister (*Nee*), Page 30

Within a family, the younger siblings are referred to by name, but siblings older than one's self are referred to by title. The title of big brother is *nii*, which is usually followed by an honorific (*-san*, *-chan*, or *-sama*, depending on the relationship). The title used by the robots is the robot's name plus *nee-sama*, which means "big sister" and is a very respectful form of address.

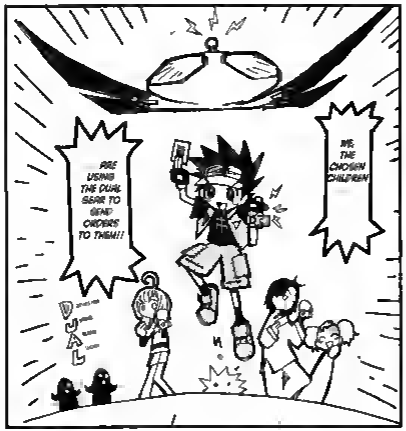


Kapitan-chan, Page 46

Considering that Kapitan-chan is the leader of Jag G and her name sounds vaguely like "captain," I considered rendering her name as Captain-chan. However, there is a standard *katakana* spelling for captain that would appear in our alphabet as *kyaputen*, and *-tan* is a popular add-on to names to make them cute, so I took the safe route and simply transliterated the Japanese spelling.

DUAL, Page 46

The Japanese acronym stands for *Denha-de Uchûjin Ayatsutte Lucky!*, which translates into "Radio VJ waves for Controlling Aliens Lucky." I couldn't come up with a word that would indicate radio waves, but this translation comes pretty close to the original.

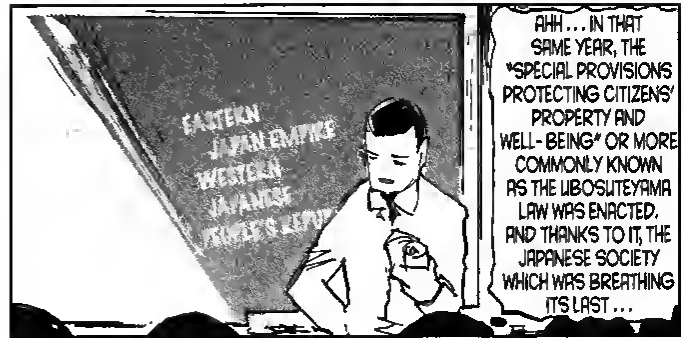


Elementary School, Middle School, High School, Page 53

The Japanese school system is slightly different than the American system. In Japan, elementary school consists of grades 1–6, middle school consists of grades 7–9, and high school consists of grades 10–12.

Ubosuteyama, Page 86

There is an ancient story, and in some locations a real historical practice, of taking the elderly up to a mountain and leaving them there to die after they reach a certain age. The word *ubosute* means to throw away an elderly woman. The story tells of a man who could not abandon his mother on the mountain Ubosuteyama after she had turned sixty. The reference in this manga seems to indicate that Japan's law required the death of Japan's elderly once they reached a certain age.


AHH... IN THAT SAME YEAR, THE "SPECIAL PROVISIONS PROTECTING CITIZENS' PROPERTY AND WELL-BEING" OR MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE UBOSUTEYAMA LAW WAS ENACTED. AND THANKS TO IT, THE JAPANESE SOCIETY WHICH WAS BREATHING ITS LAST...

Ittekimasu, Page 133

As pointed out in the note for page 18, there are set phrases in Japanese, and *ittekimasu* is another such phrase. As one says *tadaima* when one arrives at one's home or at a place where one belongs, one says *ittekimasu* (literally, "I'm going and will come back") when one leaves such a place. That is the phrase that Mei uses when she dashes out of her home. The standard reply from those staying behind is "*Itterashai!*"

So What Happened?

I wish I could tell you. Although as translator have access to less processed information (the Japanese language) than the readers of this English version, I don't have access to any more information than you do. There is no dialogue in the final scenes between AA-ko-chan and Furiko. There is very little to indicate why the general said he was a dead man (aside from the piles of rubble surrounding him, perhaps), and certainly nothing to tell us why, in what looked to be a final act, he decided to fall on Kapitan-chan, making her miss killing Major Ririko Muji. And finally, aside from Akaza's speculation, there's nothing to tell us where our main male character and title character are at the end of the story.

So, like Ueda-sensei himself, we're going to ask you to use your own imagination to fill in the blanks. Are you pretty certain that you know the answers? Then feel free to write us at delreymanga@randomhouse.com and let us know what you suppose happened. Or simply write to say what you think of the manga as a whole.